

HIS WORD TODAY

by Rev. William J. Reilly

**Fifth Sunday
in Ordinary Time
February 9, 2025**

“When he had finished speaking he said to Simon, ‘Put out into deep water and lower your nets for a catch.’ Simon answered, ‘Master, we have been hard at it all night long and have caught nothing, but if you say so I will lower the nets’. Upon doing this they caught such a great number of fish, that their nets were at the breaking point... At the sight of this, Simon Peter fell at the feet of Jesus saying ‘Leave me Lord, I am a sinful man.’”

Remember when Jesus met the brothers, they were fishermen, destined to be fishers of men. The scene can be easily reproduced – the sea, boats, lapping water, the aroma of fish, but that is not the point. I too, am part of the picture. I’m in the boat, and now?

May we see the boat as our church. May we respond as Simon did and ‘lower the net,’ reach out to someone who is around us, but not yet responding to our invitation. Drop the net again telling them of what Jesus, the church, the sacraments mean for them. Come on board, Peter the fisherman responded and then began a new mission. We are Simon Peter for others today.



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 Avenue.....732-223-0287..... FAX: 732-528-1901
RELIGIOUS EDUCATION OFFICE.....119 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 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, February 8, 2025**

8:30 am Chris Mutch by her Family
 8:30 am Sandra Stamos by Pat Wladich
 8:30 am Elizabeth J. Dennin by Brian Reilly
 4:30 pm Theresa Mele by Joe Mele, Sr.
 4:30 pm The Heinzerling Family
 by Ann & Bill Heinzerling
 4:30 pm The Fahey Family by Ann & Bill Heinzerling
 4:30 pm Bernice & Frederick Kile by the Kile Family

Sunday, February 9, 2025

8:00 am For the People of the Parish
 9:30 am Janice Kircher by Sean & Mary Ellen Boyle
 9:30 am Macee Catherine Freeman by Nonna & Pop Pop
 9:30 am Elizabeth M. Papeth by Sandi & Jim Freeman
 10:00 am Donald Caesar by Maureen Caesar
 10:00 am Allen Bessemer, Jr. by Carol Rizzi
 10:00 am Lillian Gross by Michelle & Steve Schneider

Monday, February 10, 2025

7:30 am James Smith by Nina & Don Rodgers
 7:30 am Marianne Rasna Maddocks by her Sisters
 7:30 am Sandra Stamos by Anne & Ray Summers

Tuesday, February 11, 2025

7:30 am Gabriel Bevilacqua by Melanie & Bill Brady
 7:30 am Anthony Critelli by CDA, Ct. St. Denis
 7:30 am Edward Weiss by the Culley Family

Wednesday, February 12, 2025

7:30 am Edward M. Bookrajian by his Sister
 7:30 am Janice Kircher by Bob Peters
 7:30 am Gerard Langone by Chris Sawitsky

Thursday, February 13, 2025

No Mass

Friday, February 14, 2025

7:30 am Gabe Bevilacqua by his Family
 7:30 am George Piegari by Sandy DeGrande
 7:30 am John Patterson by Bridget Sawitsky

Saturday, February 15, 2025

8:30 am Dominick DeStefano by his Family
 8:30 am Kay & Dave Morton by their Family
 8:30 am Isidore Vivaldi by the Sheehan Family
 4:30 pm Deceased Members of the Meehan Family
 by Tom & Kerry O'Connor
 4:30 pm Stan Poplaski by Patty Mele
 4:30 pm Janice Kircher by Luann & John Quigley & Family
 4:30 pm Lillian & Theodore Prospero by their Son

Sunday, February 16, 2025

8:00 am Eileen Mary Mahoney by Eileen & Michael Mahoney
 8:00 am Alice Farrell by Pat Donnelly
 8:00 am Carmello Sarro by Kathleen & David McMullen
 9:30 am Carmen Fazio by his Family
 9:30 am Frank Kuchinski by his Family
 9:30 am Dorothy & Charles Nielsen by their Daughter
 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 Rita McKeever Badaracco, Ron Anderson, Robert Lassiter and Noreen Greene.



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, Helen Brennan, 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 Daidone, 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, Norma Friel, Madeline Fuccile, John Gallo, Katherine Geiger, Sharon Gergich, 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, 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, Amanda Forgiione Meehan, 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 Procyon, 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.

CATHOLIC DAUGHTERS, COURT ST. DENIS will meet on Thursday, February 13, 2025 in the Parish Center at 5:30 pm. New members are always welcome to join.


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.

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, Feb. 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>.)

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.



our military, 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!

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!

 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 at the 9:30 am Mass every other week: 2/9, and 2/23. We hope your children will join us!! For more information please contact the rectory.

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!

 **FIFTEEN:5- A new Catholic Community of Faith, Family, and Friends. Our initial program, The Search, is for those in their 20’s, 30’s, & 40’s (single or married).** Are you committed to improving your health - physically, mentally, and/or spiritually? Be the best you can be, driven by Faith. Our next meeting will be on Thursday, February 20th at 7 pm in the St. Denis Parish Center. Enjoy light refreshments, discussion, and fellowship with your peers. Join us for a meeting to see what we’re about. Bring friends, bring your spouse. We’ll also have a **Spring Team EVENT, Jersey Shore Relay Marathon**. Any runner, including casual runners, can join one of our teams. We’ll be adding other programs and events in future, including family activities. For questions or to join a relay team, email fifteen5njshore@gmail.com.

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

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.



SAINT JOHN OF THE CROSS AND THE VIRTUE OF HOPE- Join Fr. Bill in this Jubilee Year of Hope for a special discussion on Tuesday, February 18, 2025 at 11 am or 7 pm in the church. All are welcome.

“REGAINING AND MAINTAINING HOPE”- Monday, February 24th 11am, 4:30pm or 7:00pm, and Tuesday, February 25th 4:30pm in St. Denis Church. Maybe God showed up years ago in your life in some wondrous or powerful way, but fear whispers: *That was then, and this is now.* When doubt limits our belief about what God can do in the future....the solution is found in remembering! **Join us as for our 3rd gathering of our 30-day Pre-Lent personal pilgrimage of hope as we share HOPE : An Anchor For The Soul.**

BLESSED SAINT GERARD MEDALS AND PRAYER CARDS AVAILABLE- Do you know someone who is expecting a child, hoping to conceive, or thinking about adoption? Blessed St. Gerard medals and prayer cards are available for anyone who wishes to take them for themselves or to give to family and friends. To receive one, please stop by the rectory office during business hours.

ST. VALENTINE’S PRAYER FROM THE GRANDPARENTS GUILD

*I said a Valentine prayer for you
And asked the Lord above
To fill your heart and bless your soul
With the precious gift of love.
I asked Him for a sincere love
The kind that’s meant to stay
Just like the generous love
You give to those you touch each day.
I prayed for love from family
And from every cherished friend
Then I asked the Lord to give you
His love that knows no end. AMEN*

The Guild is looking for new members to grow our ministry. Please consider coming to our meeting on February 18. We will pray for each grandchild and share “Fun and Faith” activities as Lent approaches. We meet at 11 am in the Parish Center.



St. Vincent De Paul Society’s Food Pantry at St. Denis Church

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:
Macaroni & cheese, jelly, pasta sauce & laundry 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.



**IN LOVING MEMORY OF
DOMINICK DESTEFANO,
ANTONIA (NINA) DESTEFANO, &
CARMEN FAZIO
REQUESTED BY FAMILY**

GIVING TREE THANK YOU NOTES:

You are truly God’s hands and feet. We can never thank you enough. You are a blessing to many families, who without your love and gifts, would not have had as many smiles, if any on their faces this Christmas. Thank you for making our Christmas special. Know you are always in our thoughts and prayers.

Our family cannot even begin to express our gratitude for all you did this holiday season. The Giving Tree is one of the most amazing blessings to not only our family, but countless others. God shows His love for us through people like you. Please know your kindness and generosity means the world to us. With thankful hearts and in Christ’s love, thank you.

Thank you for making our Christmas a special one. I absolutely love the sweat suit. It keeps me warm. I can’t wait to get something I need with the gift card.

Dear Father Bill and St. Denis Parishioners,
The Giving Tree was very generous to our medical brigade. We received 835 pairs of socks for women, men and children of Honduras and 70 baseball caps. The villages we visit are very poor. Most people don’t wear socks. The men particularly appreciate the socks. They work in the fields or on sugar cane plantations. The socks offer comfort under their boots or shoes. St. Denis Parish is always so generous. We feel very lucky to have your support.

Sincerely, Cathy Abercrombie
Henry B. King Medical Brigade

THE SOCIETY OF ST. VINCENT DE PAUL

The Gospels often ask us to have faith in God and that He will help us to know the right path to take. In choosing a path to help, He does not ask us about ability but only our availability; and, if we prove our dependability, He will increase our capability to do good. God often doesn’t call the “most qualified”, he qualifies the “called”.

If you have an interest in learning how you can help those in need, come to the Society’s next meeting on Thursday, 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.

SACRAMENT OF ANOINTING OF THE SICK- Tuesday, February 11th is the World Day of the Sick. We are asked to pray for the sick and offer up sacrifice in solidarity with them. We encourage all who are ill and those who must deal with chronic illness to join us at one of the two Services of Anointing of the Sick on February 11th at 11 am or 7 pm in the church. We hope to have at least two or three priests available.

SUPPORT GROUP FOR ANYONE SEPARATED OR DIVORCED- There are many offerings for anyone experiencing the pain and hurt of losing a marriage relationship. It doesn't matter if you are contemplating divorce, newly separated, going through the divorce process, recently divorced or divorced many years. You could have been married 4 years or 40 years, it doesn't matter, this program has help for everyone that attends. We are currently offering a 12-Week Program Beginning Thursday, March 6th, 2025 from 7:00 pm – 8:30 pm at St. Leo The Great, Parish Center Meeting Room located at 50 Hurleys Lane, Lincroft, NJ To register or to have one of the facilitators give you a call to find out more information, please email: healinghearts-fromdivorce@gmail.com. For more information please visit: <https://www.mylifechangecoach.com/divorceministry>.

**WORD OF LIFE --
provided by Mary's Child Pro-Life Ministry**

"Married love differs from any other love in the world. By its nature, the love of husband and wife is so complete, so ordered to a lifetime of communion with God and each other, that it is open to creating a new human being they will love and care for together." USCCB, *Married Love and the Gift of Life*
ACTION CENTER

National Marriage Week February 7 -14th Celebrate National Marriage Week (February 7-14) and World Marriage Day (Sunday, February 9). Our hope in Christ is built on a culture of life and love that begins with supporting and promoting marriage and the family. Our theme for 2025 is "**Marriage: Source of Hope, Spring of Renewal. Pursue a Lasting Love!**" Visit www.foryourmarriage.org/celebrate-national-marriage-week/ for more information.

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 the rectory for more information.

PRAY THE ROSARY TO OUR LADY OF FATIMA. Please join us in prayer at St. Catharine'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!*

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 celebrate World Marriage Day. The observances of National Marriage Week (February 7-14) and World Marriage Day (Sunday, February 9) are an opportunity to focus on building a culture of life and love that begins with supporting and promoting marriage and the family. Our theme for 2025 is "**Marriage: Source of Hope, Spring of Renewal. Pursue a Lasting Love!**"

The Sacrament of Matrimony offers hope – to the couple, to the Church, and to the world. To the couple – hope is offered for the couple to "take their relationship to the next level", which is often what couples say to me when I ask why they want to get married. "Next level" indeed, through God's grace, "the two become one" as Jesus taught us. Marriage gives hope to the couple for their relationship to grow and move into a deeper way of giving the gift of self to the other, even receiving the great gift of a child because of that deeper gift of self to the other in their relationship. Marriage gives hope to the Church for the life that the married couple offers to the parish and the witness they give of their sacrament – "richer or poorer, in sickness and health". Marriage gives hope to the world as the "family is the basic unit of society".

There are many resources that are offered by the US Bishops and our Diocese. I invite you to visit the following sites to get great inspiration. Please note the last one is for registering for the Bishop's Anniversary Blessing which takes place in October, so save the date. God bless all who follow the Lord as married disciples.

<https://www.marriageweek.org/>
<https://www.marriageweek.org/church-resources>
<https://www.foryourmarriage.org/celebrate-national-marriage-week/>
<https://dioceseoftrenton.org/bishops-anniversary-blessing>

COLLECTION FOR THE CHURCH IN CENTRAL AND EASTERN EUROPE- Next week our second collection will be for the Church in Central and Eastern Europe. This collection supports the Church in more than 25 countries that are still struggling to recover from former communist rule. It also aids communities throughout the region that are affected by the war in Ukraine. Funds support pastoral care, catechesis, renovations, and seminary formation. Your contribution restores the Church and builds the future in this region. Please prayerfully consider how you can support the collection next week. You can find more information at www.usccb.org/ccee.

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.churchofstedenis.org and click on "Online Giving".



January 26, 2025

Weekly Collection- \$8,913.00

2nd collection- Church in Latin America- \$2,462.00

THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROSITY !



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 information. Life Recovery Bible Weekly Podcasts by City of Angels Recovery Radio-<https://play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=st.shoutca.sh.coanj> 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.

SACRED HEART ENTHRONEMENT NETWORK— Do you want more peace in your family, blessings on your undertakings, and a more perfect faith life? Jesus is standing at the door and knocking. Open the door for Him! Join our nationwide campaign to invite the Sacred Heart of Jesus into your home, or business. Visit www.SacredHeartRevival.com for more information on the graces of the Sacred Heart and sign up today.



FRANCIS HOUSE OF PRAYER is a Trenton Diocesan Spiritual Center and Retreat House located at 84 Walnford Road, Allentown, NJ. FHOP@verizon.net 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.

ABANDONMENT TO DIVINE PROVIDENCE- Tuesday, February 18 9:30 AM – 1:00 PM We are going to summarize the essence of this classic by Jean Pierre de Caussade so that you can enjoy and internalize his message of complete abandonment to the care of Divine Providence. We seem to need that more than ever and we so desire to acquaint you with his wisdom in pointing to the Providence of God in all things. Donation: \$25, includes materials and lunch. Zoom: \$20.

DOROTHY DAY "ENTERTAINING ANGELS" Friday, February 21 9:30 AM – 1:30 PM Together, we will view the movie, "Entertaining Angels" to learn about Dorothy Day's message of peace and justice. Her heart was guided to live centered in Christ and out of this center came her courage, strength and love for all people. Let's discover together what she called the "revolution of the heart" as we reflect on and discuss her desire to bring God's mercy into the world. Led by Jill Snyder. Donation: \$30, includes lunch. Zoom: \$25

ASH WEDNESDAY RETREAT Wednesday, March 5 9:30 AM – 1:30 PM **LITURGY AT NOON** We love beginning Lent together with this retreat at Francis House because it provides a gentle structure for the six-week journey ahead. This year we think you will enjoy *A Way Other Than Our Own* by Walter Brueggemann to guide your Lenten journey. Liturgy is included with the reception of ashes within it. Led by S. Marcy. Donation: \$40, includes lunch and book for your Lenten journey. Zoom \$25

5-DAY SILENT DIRECTED RETREAT- Begins 6:30 PM – Ends 10:00 AM June 15 – 20 Sunday to Friday Donation: \$500/\$100 non-refundable deposit. Full payment is required 3 weeks in advance of start date.

THE 2025 ANNUAL CATHOLIC APPEAL IS NOW UNDERWAY- Bishop O'Connell's letter will soon arrive in your homes, and next weekend at all Masses, you'll have the opportunity to make your pledge to support essential diocesan ministries. During this Jubilee Year, our Appeal theme 'Fan the Flame of Hope' calls us to be Pilgrims of Hope. As the papal motto reminds us, 'Hope Does Not Disappoint' (Romans 5:5). Your gift supports ministries that offer hope to our most vulnerable neighbors, strengthen families, form clergy, educate youth, and spread Christ's love throughout our diocese. Join us next weekend to Fan the Flame of Hope through your pledge or make your gift today at giveaca.org.

THE 28TH ANNUAL CATHOLIC MEN FOR JESUS CHRIST CONFERENCE will take place Saturday, February 22, 2025, 8 am-3 pm at St. Mary Mother of God Church, 19 Cherry Tree Farm Road in Middletown. Doors open at 8 am for bagels and coffee; lunch is also included. Guest speakers: Trent Horn (speaker and author, Matthew Arnold (EWTN host and author) and Elvis Grbac (KC Chiefs Quarterback and Superbowl XXIX champion). Bishop David O'Connell will be the presider and homilist for the celebration of the Holy Mass. Tickets are \$60 with online registration, \$60 at the door, and \$20 for students. Order tickets online at CatholicMenForJesusChrist.org or send your check with a self-addressed envelope to: Catholic Men For Jesus Christ PO Box 266 Clarksburg, NJ 08510.

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.

LOVE: LOST AND FOUND, A VALENTINE'S CABARET will be presented by Lauryn Boyle with guests: Asai Johnson, Kyle Kimmel, Julie Ettore. Dr. Karen Gray, Michael Kirkland a Leo Leuci on piano, with a special appearance by Susie Peltz. Come for an evening of your favorite musical theater love solos, duets, and more. A brief reception will follow. The performance will take place at Manasquan United Methodist Church, 17 Church St. in Manasquan on Saturday, February 15th at 6:30 pm. Doors will open at 6:00 pm. Tickets (\$15) will be sold at the door.

HENRY B. KING MEDICAL BRIGADE BON VOYAGE PARTY-The annual HKB 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://henrykingmedicalbrigade.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**

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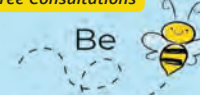
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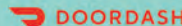


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