

HIS WORD TODAY

by Rev. William J. Reilly

Sixth Sunday
in Ordinary Time
February 16, 2025

“Blessed is the man who trusts in the Lord, whose hope is the Lord. He is like a tree planted beside the waters that stretches out its roots to the stream. It fears not the heat when it comes, its leaves stay green. In the year of drought, it shows no distress, but still bears fruit...When Jesus came down the mountain, he stopped at a level stretch...then raising his eyes to his disciples, he said: ‘Blest are you poor...who hunger...are weeping for life, strength and the power...when they shall hate you.’”

Saint Luke offers us the ‘sermon on the plain’ while we are also familiar with Matthew’s ‘sermon on the mount.’ The beatitudes of both, varying slightly, offer us a plan for our lives as disciples, relating what confronts us, our opportunities for growth, and the promised rewards.

The image of the strong tree of Jeremiah portrays all of us, trusting in the Lord, resisting the many evils which confront us. We cannot do it alone, but draw our strength from a life of prayer, celebration of the sacraments and being ‘people of the beatitudes.’



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.



MASS INTENTIONS

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

Monday, February 17, 2025

- 7:30 am James F. Smith by Jaclyn & Kevin Iglesias
 7:30 am Mark Regan by Pat Farrell
 7:30 am John Paul Misch by Anne & Ray Summers

Tuesday, February 18, 2025

- 7:30 am Antonia (Nina) DiStefano by her Family
 7:30 am Agnes Bakunas by Edith Esquieres
 7:30 am James Tarabocchia by the Scrivanich Family

Wednesday, February 19, 2025

- 7:30 am William Pavincich by Eileen Ziesmer
 7:30 am Allen Bessemer, Jr. by Eileen Ziesmer
 7:30 am Joan Clarkin-Heary by John O'Donnell

Thursday, February 20, 2025

No Mass

Friday, February 21, 2025

- 7:30 am George Fanning by his Family & Betty Thatch
 7:30 am Marianne Rasna Maddocks by her Sisters
 7:30 am Raymond Cacioppe by Jeanne & Bill Buble

Saturday, February 22, 2025

- 8:30 am James Smith by Patrick Moore
 8:30 am Ron Weinbel by Mr. & Mrs. McDermott
 8:30 am Eleanor LoBiondo by Lucia & Joseph Nitti
 4:30 pm William Pavincich by Tom & Kerry O'Connor
 4:30 pm Stan Poplaski by Patty Mele
 4:30 pm John J. Lewis by his Family

Sunday, February 23, 2025

- 8:00 am Frederick Lockenmeyer by Gordon Justin
 8:00 am Maria Mircovich by Betty Scrivanich
 8:00 am Allen Bessemer, Jr. by Denise & Mark Olear
 9:30 am Lisa Valentin by Michelle & Steve Schneider
 9:30 am Charles Denath by Pat & Neil Rothman
 9:30 am Allen Bessemer, Jr. by Rita McKeever Badaracco
 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 Helen Brennan.



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 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 Forgione 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 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.



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 a discussion on "The Amen Effect: Ancient Wisdom to Mend our Broken Hearts and World" by Rabbi Sharon Brous: Wednesday, Feb. 19 11am-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!
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. 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.

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".

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.

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.

“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.

THE GRANDPARENTS GUILD - The Guild is looking for new members to grow our ministry. Please come to our monthly meeting on Tuesday, February 18. We will pray for each grandchild and will share “Faith-based Activities” suggestions for the upcoming Lenten season. We meet at 11 am for an hour in the Parish Center. We look forward to meeting you and sharing your thoughts and grandparenting experiences.

ANNUAL SAINT PATRICK’S DAY INVESTITURE MASS- On Saturday March 1, 2025 at 10 am the MOST REVEREND DAVID MICHAEL O’CONNELL, C.M., J.C.D., D.D. BISHOP OF TRENTON will celebrate Mass at Saint Rose Church, 603 7th Ave. in Belmar, at the Annual Investiture Mass for the Belmar and Lake Como Saint Patrick’s Day Parade. The Mass will be dedicated in memory of Bob Jenkins, 2011 Grand Marshal and will invest 2025 Grand Marshals for the Parade, Matthew Lee and Fran Griffin. A luncheon will follow at the Taylor Pavilion. Advance tickets must be purchased. Contact the rectory office (732-223-0287) for ticket information.

ASBURY PARK ST. PATRICK’S DAY PARADE- Our Lady of Mount Carmel School is excited to announce that it will be participating in the 11th Annual Asbury Park St. Patrick’s Day Parade on Sunday, March 9, 2025 at 1 pm. All alumni, benefactors, supporters and their families are invited to join them in celebration and appreciation by marching. Kindly RSVP to Lisa Stewart at lstewart@olmcapnj.org by Friday, February 21, 2025. Kindly RSVP by Friday, February 21, 2025 with your name and number of family members who will participate.



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
JOAN CLARKIN-HEARY
REQUESTED BY HER PARENTS,
JOAN & MARK CLARKIN**

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



Vincent de Paul was canonized by Pope Clement XI in 1737 but Pope Leo XI honored him as patron saint of all charitable societies in 1885. It was the deathbed confession of a dying servant which opened Vincent’s eyes to the crying spiritual needs of the peasantry of France. This was a crucial moment in the life of a man from a small farm in France, who originally became a priest with little more purpose than to have a comfortable life. The Countess de Gondi whose servant he had helped persuaded her husband to endow and support a group of missionaries who would work among the poor tenant farmers and country folk.

After working for some time in Paris among imprisoned galley slaves, Vincent returned to be the leader of the group, now known as the Congregation of the Mission, or The Vincentians. These priests, with vows of poverty, chastity, obedience and stability, were to devote themselves entirely to the people in small towns and villages. Later, Vincent established confraternities of charity for the spiritual and physical relief of the poor and sick of each parish. From these, with the help of Louise de Marillac, came the Daughters of Charity to help the sick in the city. He organized the rich women of Paris to collect funds for his missionary projects, founded several hospitals, collected relief funds for the victims of war, and ransomed over 1200 galley slaves from North Africa. He was also zealous in conducting retreats for clergy at a time when there was great laxity, abuse and ignorance among them.

Remarkably, Vincent was by temperament a quick tempered and testy person, even his friends said so. He said later in life that except for the grace of God he would have been “hard and repulsive, rough and cross”. But he became a tender and affectionate man, very sensitive to the needs of others, and would become the patron saint of our society.

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.



**The Rectory Office
will be closed Monday, February 17, 2025
in observance of President's Day.
The office will reopen
Tuesday, February 18, 2025 at 8:30 am**

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.

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

"We often assume parenthood happens easily after 'I do,' but for many married couples, it does not. For some, the joy of conception never happens. Others suffer repeated miscarriages. Still others experience secondary infertility... If you experience difficulty bringing a child into your family, know that you are not alone. God is with you, and his Church desires to walk with you... God has a beautiful plan for your life as a married couple." USCCB Secretariat of Pro-Life Activities "Seven Considerations While Navigating Infertility" respectlife.org/navigating-infertility

ACTION CENTER—

UNDERSTANDING THE INTERSECTION OF YOUR HEALTH AND YOUR FAITH—Families often seek guidance as they encounter difficult health decisions. It may involve questions of infertility, hospice care, end-of-life food & nutrition for a loved one, etc. How does one navigate these or other difficult decisions that are ethically consistent with church teachings? Visit www.ncbcenter.org for more information or a free consultation.

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.

SIGN-UP FOR ACTION ALERTS at

www.humanlifeaction.org AND

<https://www.votervoices.net/USCCB/home> AND

<https://njcatholic.org/faith-in-action> Our legislators have begun to bring abortion legislation to a vote without customary comment periods and discussion before voting. We need to mobilize quickly and respond immediately to their actions. Sign up directly for action alerts so you can update legislators immediately about proposed legislation.

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

Today we introduce the Annual Catholic Appeal. I want to thank the families and individuals who donated last year to the appeal, which supports the work of the Church carried out at the larger level of the Diocese of Trenton. Last year was the first year in my time that we crushed our goal. We raised 120% of our goal, and as such we will receive almost \$23,000 in parish rebate. Thank you. We will put that money to use in the lighting improvement project for St. Denis Church, which will happen this year, hopefully. As Catholics in the Diocese of Trenton, we share in the responsibility to support the mission of the diocese as the Catholic Church in central New Jersey. It is also certainly great to get money back for our parish from our generous support of the Annual Catholic Appeal.

This year the rebate structure is different. We will get a rebate if we go over our goal; 100% of money collected above goal. There is also a new incentive if we improve our parishioner participation in the Appeal by over 5%. That is something we can do! This year I am hoping that 30-40 more registered parishioners would contribute, even a one-time gift, through the envelopes that you will receive from the diocese, and let them know you are a parishioner of St. Denis Parish. This would mean that we would be able to support the diocese as well as our parish in such an easy way. Please consider a donation to the Appeal and stay tuned for all the ways in which we benefit from the Appeal in our parish.

May our Blessed Mother, patroness of the Diocese, intercede for all in our diocese and all we do as a Diocese in the Name of her Son, Jesus.

DOWNEY SIDE— Do you want to make a difference in the life of a foster care child? If so, apply to adopt through Downey Side and give foster care children a permanent home. The children are school-age and up. Visit downeyside.org for more information

ARE YOU A WOMAN RETURNING TO COLLEGE? Scholarships are available from the Woman's Club of Spring Lake. Eligibility for scholarship consideration is open to female residents of Monmouth County who have had an interruption in their education, who are now seeking an initial associate's or bachelor's degree and who are currently enrolled or newly registered at an accredited two or four year institution. Applications and information are available on the Scholarship page at: www.womansclubofspringlake.org Applications are due 4/1/25.

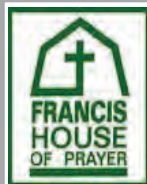


February 2, 2025

Weekly Collection-

\$11,569.00

THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROSITY !



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.

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 I 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. Donation: \$40, includes lunch and book for your Lenten journey. Zoom \$25

THE IMITATION OF CHRIST THE BEATITUDES EDITION
Friday, March 7 9:30 AM – 1:00 PM Let's enjoy the wisdom of this timeless classic by Thomas A Kempis translated for us in this special version, *The Imitation of Christ – The Beatitudes Edition*. Listen as Jesus speaks right to you as a friend with loving advice. Time will also be given to contemplative prayer. Donation: \$25, includes lunch; Zoom \$20

FORGIVENESS A GIFT OF LOVING AS GOD LOVES
3 Fridays 9:30 – 11:00 AM March 14 & 28 and April 11
To be loved by God and to love as God loves IS our path to union with our Creator. We will pray with several Scripture passages, reflect on the words of Henri Nouwen in *The Return of the Prodigal Son* as we absorb the beauty and the promise portrayed in Rembrandt's painting of the same name. Please come and experience the freedom found in healing and forgiveness. Donation: \$60

IN-PERSON ONLY
SILENT DIRECTED RETREAT WEEKEND 6:30 PM Friday, April 11 to 12:00 PM Sunday, April 13 Liturgy, spiritual direction and optional contemplative prayer periods are included. Donation: \$200/\$100 non-refundable deposit. Full payment is required 2 weeks in advance of start date.

CONTACT OF OCEAN AND MONMOUTH COUNTIES- The next 12-week training class for telephone volunteers for CONTACT (24-hour crisis intervention hotline) will begin on Wednesday, February 28, 2024, once a week for 12 weeks, every Wednesday, 6:30-9:30 pm. In person training will be held at St. Luke's Church, 1674 Old Freehold Road in Toms River. CONTACT, a free and confidential service, has been assisting with the needs of individuals throughout the community since 1975, by providing a safe place for callers to talk about their problems with anonymity. Information and referrals are provided when requested. For additional information please call the CONTACT office at 732-240-6104.

SAINT PETER SCHOOL
Anchored in Faith | Pi. Piesanti | Dignity | NJ

NOW ENROLLING PRE-K - 8

www.stpschool.org

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 _____

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.

HEALING THE WOUNDS OF ABORTION- The psychological and spiritual wounds of abortion can be sharp, deep and crippling. You may feel a deep numbness and may not be able to name the pain or recognize any of the symptoms. It can also have a devastating impact on the father or grandparents of the aborted child and friends of the mother. You do not have to continue to hide in shame and fear. Rachel's Vineyard's Retreat is a chance to focus on this painful time in your life through a supportive non-judgmental process, in an atmosphere of confidentiality, understanding, and compassion. It is designed to help both women and men experience the mercy and compassion of God. If you have suffered through an abortion and have isolated yourself from healing and forgiveness, you might consider attending one of our retreat weekends. For more information, contact Judy Warenkiewicz at 732-536-6871. All inquiries are strictly confidential. 2025 Weekend Retreats: March 28-30, 2025 and November 14-16, 2025

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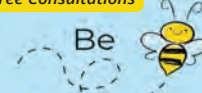
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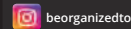


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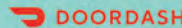


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