

## HIS WORD TODAY

by Rev. William J. Reilly

**Seventh Sunday  
in Ordinary Time  
February 23, 2025**

“Jesus said to his disciples: ‘To you who hear I say, love your enemies, do good to those who hate you, bless those who curse you, pray for those who mistreat you. To the person who strikes you on the cheek, offer the other as well, and from the person who takes your cloak, do not withhold your tunic. Give to everyone who asks of you, and from the one who takes what is yours do not demand it back. Do to others as you would have them do to you.’”

We are familiar with the ‘golden rule’. And it seems quite logical. BUT are you sure the Christian life is easy? The teaching of Jesus tells us otherwise. Maybe my task is to make sure I have no enemies, except the devil. Hate has no place in the heart of a Christian. I may disagree with someone, but no hate. I can find something positive to say about another person and always I can hold them in my prayer.

It is easy to fall, but when I listen carefully to the teaching today, I ask the grace I need, and take positive steps to put His words into practice. With Paul I can say ‘I can do all things in him who strengthens me.’



# 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 CHAPEL .....554 East Main Street  
RECTORY .....90 Union Avenue.....732-223-0287..... FAX: 732-528-1901  
RELIGIOUS EDUCATION OFFICE.....119 Virginia Avenue .....732-223-1161  
ST. DENIS CONFERENCE OF ST. VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY .....732-223-1383  
CHURCH E-MAIL ADDRESS .....st.denis@verizon.net  
PASTOR'S E-MAIL ADDRESS .....wlago@dioceseoftrenton.org  
WEB PAGE ADDRESS.....http://www.churchofstdenis.org



## MASS SCHEDULE:

Weekday Masses: 7:30 AM (Mon.-Tues.-Wed.-Fri.) – St. Denis Church  
Saturday: 8:30 AM – St. Denis Church  
Saturday Evening: 4:30 PM (fulfills Sunday obligation) - St. Denis Church  
Sunday: 8:00 AM & 9:30 AM - St. Denis Church  
Mass is shown on the Parish Facebook Page each weekend.  
Sunday: 10:00 AM - Our Lady Star of the Sea Chapel  
Holy Days: See bulletin or website for schedule

**SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION:** Saturdays, 3:30-4:15 pm & by appointment.

**MIRACULOUS MEDAL DEVOTIONS:** Tuesday morning after the 7:30 AM Mass-St. Denis Church

**BAPTISM:** The sacrament of Baptism is celebrated on Saturday and Sunday afternoons. Parents must complete the required preparation with the Pastoral Associate and obtain godparent eligibility letters before a date for Baptism will be given. Please call the rectory for further details.

**MARRIAGE:** Please contact the rectory office for more information about weddings. All couples contemplating marriage are asked to give the priests one year prior notice in order that all the requirements for marriage can be satisfied. Do not reserve the reception hall before contacting the church; your requested date may not be available.

**CARE OF THE SICK AND HOMEBOUND:** We will gladly bring Holy Communion to anyone who is ill or otherwise unable to get to Mass. Please call the rectory to make arrangements. The priests and deacon make regular visits to the local hospitals. Please call the rectory if any loved one is hospitalized.

**RITE OF CHRISTIAN BURIAL:** At such times of deep pain and loss, we seek to offer our bereaved families comfort and hope as they commend their loved ones to God. Please note that, in accordance with Church regulations, eulogies are not permitted during Funeral Masses.

**RECTORY OFFICE HOURS:** Monday-Thursday 8:30 AM-12:00 noon & 1:00 PM- 4:30 PM, Friday 8:30 AM- 12:00 noon only. There are no office hours on Saturday & Sunday. Evenings are by appointment only.

**NEW PARISHIONERS:** Welcome! We encourage new families moving into the area to stop in or call the rectory to arrange for registration.

**CELIAC SPRUE PARISHIONERS** – Saint Denis provides a low gluten (<0.01% gluten content) host. Parishioners who are gluten-intolerant should see a deacon or priest prior to the start of Mass in order to be included in the reception of the Eucharist.

**VISIT US ON FACEBOOK-** Saint Denis Parish Facebook page: [www.facebook.com/churchofstdenis](http://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 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

**Monday, February 24, 2025**

7:30 am James Tarabocchia by the Scrivanich Family  
 7:30 am Jean McNamara by Terry McCormick  
 7:30 am John Gorman by the Food Pantry Volunteers

**Tuesday, February 25, 2025**

7:30 am Silvio Mattessich by Betty Scrivanich  
 7:30 am Gloria Marmo by the Balioni Family  
 7:30 am Ty Torres by the Balioni Family

**Wednesday, February 26, 2025**

7:30 am John Gorman by Mary Ann Nuzzo  
 7:30 am Al Essner by Gene Bialas  
 7:30 am Robert Cougan by Tim & Sue McCorkell  
 7:30 am The Tassini Family by the Family

**Thursday, February 27, 2025**

No Mass

**Friday, February 28, 2025**

7:30 am Oryna Sokulska by Nadia Jaworiw  
 7:30 am John M. Kolon (21st Anniversary) by his Family  
 7:30 am George Piegari by Paula & Frank Ortner  
 7:30 am Brendan Brown by Tom & Pat Coyle

**Saturday, March 1, 2025**

8:30 am Joseph Abitante by Fran Weeks  
 8:30 am Pamela Mauro by the DeGenova Family  
 8:30 am Robert Tilton by the Wish Family  
 4:30 pm Rose & John Cafone, Sr. by their Children  
 4:30 pm Shirley Smith by the Langan Family  
 4:30 pm Rita Gibbson by the Langan Family

**Sunday, March 2, 2025**

8:00 am John Ellard by Tom & Kerry O'Connor  
 8:00 am Andrew P. Hrankowski, Jr. by his Sisters  
 8:00 am Paul Waltsak by his Family  
 8:00 am The Conversion of Eleanore Chopcowski Kijak  
 9:30 am Allen Bessemer, Jr.  
     by the Boedart & Meehan Families  
 9:30 am Joan Clarkin-Heary  
     by the Knights of Columbus 3231  
 9:30 am Dorothy Nielsen, Colleen Nielsen, &  
     Christopher Schwartz by Cathy Wolfe  
 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 Walsh, Joan McCarthy, Brian Rubino, Jr., Paul Eichmann and Kelly Layton.



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.



**Chosen & Beloved:  
Daughter of The King**  
**Tuesday, March 18, 6:30pm to 9:00pm,**  
**St. Denis Church**

walking with purpose  
SO MUCH MORE THAN A BIBLE STUDY

Join us as we spend time resting in our true identity as God's beloved daughters. The evening will include a brief talk, Adoration, and Praise and Worship. It will be followed by a Q&A session with Father Bill in the Parish Center. Light refreshments will be served.  
*Hosted by the Women of Walking with Purpose.*

**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 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> 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.

**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. We are currently offering a 12-Week Program Beginning Thursday, March 6<sup>th</sup>, 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: [healingheartsfromdivorce@gmail.com](mailto:healingheartsfromdivorce@gmail.com). For more information please visit: <https://www.mylifechangecoach.com/divorceministry>.

**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.



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.



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](mailto: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, March 13<sup>th</sup> 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 be adding other programs and events in future, including family activities. For questions, email [fifteen5njshore@gmail.com](mailto: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.churchofstedenis.org](http://www.churchofstedenis.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.





**IN LOVING MEMORY OF  
NICK AND MARY DONOHUE  
REQUESTED BY THEIR FAMILY**

**EUCHARISTIC 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.

**“REGAINING AND MAINTAINING HOPE”- Monday, February 24<sup>th</sup> 11am, 4:30pm or 7:00pm, and Tuesday, February 25<sup>th</sup> 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 3<sup>rd</sup> gathering of our 30-day Pre-Lent personal pilgrimage of hope as we share *HOPE : An Anchor For The Soul.***

**ST. DENIS ALTAR ROSARY SOCIETY** members will meet on Sunday, March 2, 2025 at 9:00 am in church for recitation of the Rosary and the 9:30 am Mass. We will also meet on Tuesday, March 4, 2025 at 12:00 noon for our business meeting. Bring your lunch and a friend.

**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.



**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:**

**canned beans and coffee**

**\*\*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.**

**WHAT CAN YOU DO TO ENSURE THE PROTECTION OF RELIGIOUS LIBERTY AT HOME AND ABROAD?** Text the word “freedom” to 377377 for updates from the bishops on current threats to religious liberty. Please visit [www.usccb.org/freedom](http://www.usccb.org/freedom) for information on religious liberty.

**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 friend/s 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 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

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



Admission into heaven is something money cannot buy. The only currency that has any value to secure our entrance is that of love. In a world where so many things can be bought with money, our minds often center more on money than love. What Jesus is trying to tell us is that money is a good servant-but a bad master. When money is employed as a servant, it can bring joy and comfort to millions and especially to those who have little or none of it. Our goal as members of the Society of St. Vincent de Paul, is to enable money to be a servant of the poor, but also to demonstrate the love of Christ to those we help. But let money become our master, let it take first place in our lives and it can become a tyrant. It can harden our hearts and blind our vision of the supreme realities of our existence.

Millions of “dollars” passed through the hands of St. Vincent and he made every cent a good servant. Vincent regarded the money which he received or possessed as the “patrimony of the poor”, and so it was always to be used for the benefit of the poor. The parishioners of St. Denis in their generosity, continue to make it possible for us to make every dollar a “good servant” for the poor.

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



### 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.coan> Download this app to listen to Life Recovery Bible podcasts. New ones can be heard each Sunday at 10AM and 10PM. There is a library of older podcasts. Please share with friends.

Thursday 7PM "Life Recovery Bible Study"...The 12 steps of Anonymous Recovery framed in their origin in holy scripture along with corollary readings. An education and support program featuring scripture and workbook assistance to enlighten and empower those seeking recovery from substance or behaviors. Presently just virtual on Zoom. Call the rectory office for more information.

### A MESSAGE FROM FATHER BILL

Last week we introduced the Annual Catholic Appeal for 2025. I ask that you please take the time to look at the brochures you were mailed, or those in the pews or in the back of church/chapel, and please consider a donation to this very important collection. 100% of money collected in the appeal goes to funding programs that are conducted at the diocesan level. Please see elsewhere in this bulletin how your contribution makes a difference. Thank you. 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.

Many people ask me about Faith and Science. As a theologian and scientist, I see the beauty that each discipline yields. Theology leads to the transcendent reality of God, which science can't explain. Science leads to unlocking the mysteries of the universe, which theology does not want to explain. Both use intellect and human reason and are not mutually exclusive. I share with you an excerpt from an article in the National Catholic Reporter by Carol Glatz:

A nerdy love of science fiction, a yearning for adventure, a passion for science and a foundation of Jesuit education all helped in some way to lead a man from Detroit, Michigan, to become a master of meteorites and the head of the Vatican Observatory. Jesuit Brother Guy Consolmagno, who has led the observatory since 2015, shares his journey of becoming a Jesuit astronomer, explains the compatibility of science and faith and guides readers on how to look at the heavens in a new book titled, "A Jesuit's Guide to the Stars: Exploring Wonder, Beauty and Science." "Ignatian spirituality emphasizes engagement with the world and 'finding God in all things,'" he wrote. "This aligns exactly with the work of a scientist because scientists find joy in studying things; to find joy is to find God." "If we believe that God created this universe, and if we believe that God so loved it that he sent his Son to become a part of it, then science becomes an act of growing closer to the creator. In that way, it becomes an act of prayer," he wrote.

### WORD OF LIFE --

provided by Mary's Child Pro-Life Ministry

"The essence of our identity is that we are created in God's image and likeness and loved by Him. Nothing can diminish the priceless worth of any human life. Every person is *cherished*." USCCB Secretariat of Pro-Life Activities Respect Life Reflection: Cherished, Chosen, Sent

[usccb.org/cherished-chosen-sent-reflection](http://usccb.org/cherished-chosen-sent-reflection)

#### ACTION CENTER—

**FIRST FRIDAY MASS & ADORATION---** *It was the special desire of our Lord Jesus Christ, revealed to Blessed Margaret Mary, that the first Friday of each month be consecrated to the devotion and adoration of His most Sacred Heart.* Join us after 7:30AM Mass to pray the rosary for the unborn, the protection of our country, peace throughout the world, and the special intentions of our parishioners. Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament @ noon at St. Denis.

**CONFUSED ON PRO-LIFE ISSUES?** The Catholic Church maintains that LIFE is the pre-eminent social justice issue while the media instead tells a story of much needed healthcare and women's reproductive rights. What is the truth? Take a copy of the pamphlet in the back of the church titled "Why We're Pro-life by Trent Horn" for a concise summary from a Catholic viewpoint on many questions surrounding abortion.

#### SIGN-UP FOR ACTION ALERTS at

[www.humanlifeaction.org](http://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. Please sign up directly for action alerts so you can update legislators immediately about proposed legislation.

**VISIT OUR WEBSITES:** [dioceseoftrenton.org/respect-life-ministry](http://dioceseoftrenton.org/respect-life-ministry) USCCB: [usccb.org/prolife](http://usccb.org/prolife) OR [respectlife.org](http://respectlife.org)



The 2025 Annual Catholic Appeal is now underway. Your support enables comprehensive faith formation programs across the diocese, nurturing spiritual growth for individuals of all ages—from children in religious education to adults seeking deeper understanding. These initiatives help our community explore, learn, and strengthen their relationship with Christ through dynamic educational opportunities. Give generously to help our entire faith community learn, grow, and develop a more profound connection with God. Make your gift online at [giveaca.org](http://giveaca.org)

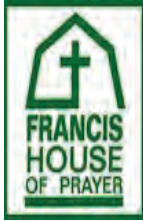


**February 9, 2025**

**Weekly Collection- \$8,505.00**

**2nd Collection (Bldg. Repairs)- \$3,773.00**

**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](http://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, 3/5/25 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, 3/7/25 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

**EVENING ZOOM ONLY**

**MEETING CHRIST IN PRAYER- EXPERIENCE OF THE SPIRITUAL EXERCISE** 8 Mondays 7–8:30 pm 3/10, 17, 24, 31; 4/7, 14, 21, 28 This is a shortened version and another wonderful way to experience the Spiritual Exercises of St. Ignatius. You will be invited to pray about 30 minutes each day. You will learn to pray more deeply; grow in friendship with God; come to know Jesus more intimately; savor the Word of God as a primary means of recognizing the presence and action of God. Donation: \$150

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

**YOUNG ADULT RETREAT-** All young adults (18-39) of the Diocese of Trenton (and beyond) are invite to the annual Young Adult Retreat at St. Thomas More in Manalapan on March 1, 2025. The day will include inspiring talks, fellowship, breakouts, prayer and more. Please go to [www.dioceseoftrenton.org/yaretreat](http://www.dioceseoftrenton.org/yaretreat) for more information.

**VISIT IRELAND WITH FR. BRIAN-** Travel with Fr. Brian Butch to Ireland October 13-22, 2025, with an escorted motor coach tour for \$3,949 land and air based on double occupancy. Visit Dublin, Kilkenny, Killarney and Galway! Mass at Our Lady of Knock! For more information contact the rectory office at 732-223-0287.

**KINDNESS CAFÉ– 305 Hwy. 71 in Spring Lake Heights at Manasquan Bank.** Freshly brewed coffee and delicious baked goods are served. The Kindness Café is open Mondays, Tuesdays, & Wednesdays from 8:30 am–11:30 am Our mission is to provide employment opportunities in a supportive and uplifting environment for individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities. Our aim is to foster a sense of belonging, dignity and purpose for our employees and community. Please stop in for a cup of kindness!

**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](mailto:st.denis@verizon.net) or call 732-223-0287.

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

**WHY BECOME A HOSPICE VOLUNTEER?** The simplest gifts are often the most profound. If you’ve got time, empathy, and compassion, you have the ability to support those nearing end of life. If you have been searching for meaningful ways to spend your time, we invite you to explore the role of hospice volunteer with VNA Health Group. Companionship visits in patient’s homes or facilities in Monmouth or Middlesex Counties, administrative projects, or comforting phone calls from our Neptune office, are just some of the ways in which our volunteers support patients and their families. A Specialized 16-hour Training will be provided by members of the VNA Hospice Team, over the course of 3 weeks. For more information please contact the rectory office at 732-223-0287.

**ALS PRAYER GROUP-** For those impacted by Lou Gehrig’s Disease (ALS) The Holy Innocent’s Society of the Diocese of Trenton is sponsoring a weekly virtual prayer group. The group will meet via Zoom every Monday at 10:00 am. For more information or to register email: [holyinnocentsociety@dioceseoftrenton.org](mailto:holyinnocentsociety@dioceseoftrenton.org) with the subject line “ALS”. Include your name and telephone number.

**SPRING CLOTHING DRIVE–** Please support the clothing drive by the Manasquan Woman's Club on March 13th, 9am-5 pm at 62 Main Street in Manasquan. Please use plastic bags to donate gently worn and new women’s, men’s and children’s clothing, shoes and handbags. The drive will benefit Market Street Mission- Jersey Shore.

**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](http://www.womansclubofspringlake.org) Applications are due 4/1/25.



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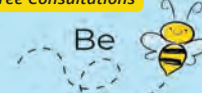
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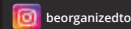


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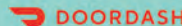


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