

## Mass Intentions

Sunday, 11/24

- 8:30 a.m. Donna Kugelman by Lynn & Gary Guthreau  
10:30 a.m. Parishioners of St. John's & Adolph Giacomarra by his family

Monday, 11/25

- 7:00 a.m. Mission & Ministries of EWTN by John Kreiss

Tuesday, 11/26

- 7:00 a.m. Mission & Ministries of EWTN by John Kreiss

Wednesday, 11/27

- 7:00 a.m. Mission & Ministries of EWTN by John Kreiss

Thursday, 11/28

- 9:00 a.m. Mission & Ministries of EWTN by John Kreiss

Friday, 11/29

- 7:00 a.m. Mission & Ministries of EWTN by John Kreiss

Saturday, 11/30

- 5:00 p.m. Lt. Mark, W. Taggart by Liz Hennessy

Sunday, 12/1

- 8:30 a.m. Daniel & Kathleen Nunzello by loving grandson Ramoń  
10:30 a.m. Parishioners of St. John's & Pat Urenovich by Pat, Bill & Will Hughes

This week our Sanctuary lamp is lit in memory of **Joan & Ed Marren** by **Jeff & Karen Marren**.

## Sacrificial Offerings 2019

Sunday, November 17

Regular Collection: \$5,070.25

### From Father Alphonsus

My dear friends,

The word Thanksgiving conjures up images of turkey and cranberry sauce, parades and football games. These are the traditions that have come to characterize the annual holiday celebrating the blessings of our lives.

Jesus himself offers us a model of gratitude to God for all the gifts that God has bestowed on us. He models an attitude of thankfulness and praise both in his prayers and in his actions by accepting whatever comes from God – even suffering – trusting that God has given it out of loving care and not anger.

It is with this sense of thanksgiving that we should also come to every Eucharist. If we have participated fully in the Eucharist and understood the grace it offers us, then the attitude of thanksgiving will permeate our whole lives. We will find ourselves becoming more aware and more grateful for the good things God gives us every day. As St. Paul counsels the Thessalonians, "Rejoice always. Pray without ceasing. In all circumstances give thanks, for this is the will of God for you in Christ Jesus." Rejoice and pray and allow your whole life to become a symphony of praise and thanksgiving to our God. Have a blessed Thanksgiving.

Yours in Christ,

Father Alphonsus

### **St. John Food Pantry**

Our Food Pantry is in need of the following: dry pasta, rice, cereal, canned tuna and chicken, low/no sugar canned fruit, no/low sodium canned vegetables and soups, tomato sauce and fruit juice. Food donations support our parish food pantry, for our neighbors in need as well as FISH Food Pantry on New Market Road in Piscataway. Thank you for your continuous generosity.

### **Social Concerns**

Do you know a needy person or family? Could one of your neighbors benefit from assistance with food and/or other essentials? Please call the Pastoral Center, 732-968-2621, in confidence, and we will do whatever we can to help. Please continue to bring men's toiletries, tooth brushes, and large and medium thongs or slippers for the Ozanam Men's Shelter. Articles may be left in the vestibule. Thanks for not forgetting the "guys".

### **Time, Talent and Treasure**



Fostering stewardship is a way of life. Everyone in our parish benefits from the sacrificial gift one makes of time, talent and treasure. With grateful hearts we thank:

### **Our Cantors**

for their efforts.



### **Coffee & Doughnut Reception**

The monthly Coffee & Doughnut reception will take place next **Sunday, 12/1, after the 8:30 and 10:30 Masses in the Church auditorium.** All are welcome to join us!

### **St. John Bulletin – New Look!**

Bon Venture has been our bulletin company for many years and has recently upgraded their equipment to digital printing. The result is a new look for our bulletin cover. Many thanks to Susan, our parish secretary, and Chris from Bon Venture, for their work on our new look.



### **Giving Tree**

Our parish giving tree will be in the vestibule of the Church next weekend. Gifts are for members of our larger community who would not experience the joy of Christmas. Thank you for your generous support of those less fortunate.

### **Rosarian Christmas Luncheon**

The Rosarians will hold their Christmas Luncheon at **12 Noon on Monday, 12/2 at Carpaccio Ristorante, 651 Bound Brook Road in Middlesex.** The cost is \$22 per person. If you are interested in attending, please contact Fran Furino and all are welcome to attend.

**Journey through Advent**  
**with Pope Francis**

Each Sunday through Advent, we will feature a reflection from the Holy Father on the power and wonder of God's presence.



**Thanksgiving**  
**Basket Raffle**

Last chance to purchase tickets for the Choir Basket Raffle is this weekend after all

Masses. Drawing will take place on Tuesday, November 26 at choir rehearsal.

**Volunteer Opportunity**

The Casino Nite Committee is looking for new members. This *Fun*-raiser provides great opportunity for a community gathering and support for our ministries. If you are interested, please contact Kathy Nicholson at [nich425@msn.com](mailto:nich425@msn.com) or 908-256-0172.

**Catholic Charities-**  
**Diocese of Metuchen**

Please consider supporting our local poverty relief services by donating gently used clothing, shoes, household items and small appliances to Catholic Charities-Diocese of Metuchen.

A donation box is located in our parish parking lot. If you have an item that is too big to fit in the donation box, call 877-343-3651 to arrange for a free pick up at your home. Proceeds support the ministries of Catholic Charities.



**Prayers for Our**  
**Service Members**

Please pray for the following parishioners who are currently serving in the Military:

**U.S. Navy Reserve Lt. Michael Bartilotti**  
**U.S. Army Pvt. Luke Harshaney**  
**U.S. Army Pvt. Raymond C. Pizzigoni**  
**U.S. Coast Guard Lt. Ed Sella**  
**U.S. Army Staff Sgt. Paul Frabizzio**  
**U.S. Marine Mer. Cpl. Thomas Tyler Lizak**  
**U.S. Army Pfc. Sean Parente**  
**U.S. Marine Pvt. Dante Parente**  
**U.S. Army 2<sup>nd</sup> Lt. Casey Wenzel**  
**U.S. Army Spec. 4 Timothy Francisco**  
**U.S. Marine LCpl. Stephen Wright**  
**U.S. Marine Pvt. José Citron**

If there are any other military members you would like to be included in our prayers, please contact the Parish Office.

**Free Advent Reflection series from**  
**Immaculate Conception Seminary**

Immaculate Conception Seminary School of Theology invites you to celebrate the truth, the goodness and the beauty of the Advent season through our Advent video reflection series. Sign up to receive an e-mail each day of Advent with a video reflection on that day's reading, offered by our inspiring faculty and administration. Experience the Lord with us this Advent season. Click here <https://www.shu.edu/theology/immaculate-conception-seminary-advent-series.cfm>

**Amazing Possibilities**

Dynamic Catholic is offering a free and totally awesome daily video program, sent straight to your email, that will help you prepare for Christmas like never before! You can sign up at <https://dynamiccatholic.com/best-advent-ever>.

**Religious Education News** 



THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT  
OF OUR  
THANKSGIVING PIE FUNDRAISER!!!!

Thanksgiving Pies will be available for pickup this **Sunday, November 24th** between the hours of **8:30am - 12:30pm**. Pick up is in the Auditorium. Please make every effort to get your pies. As they are frozen and the Church has no available freezer space for storage, pies not picked up will be donated to FISH that afternoon.

**Mount Saint Mary House of Prayer**  
**UPCOMING PROGRAMS: Registration required;**  
call 908-753-2091 or email: [msmhope@msmhope.org](mailto:msmhope@msmhope.org)

ANSWERED PRAYERS – AN ADVENT EVENING  
OF RECOLLECTION

The Gospel of John proclaims "... the Word became flesh and dwelt among us" (Jn 1:14). Come and ponder this revelation and discover how God answers prayers.

A light supper is included.

**Wed., Dec. 4, 5:30 -9 p.m.** (\$50-\$60 as you are able)

Presenter: Jim Choma, VP for Catholic Mission & Chief Development Officer at Saint Peter's Healthcare System

A FRESH PERSPECTIVE ON THE  
SUNDAY READINGS

**HIS WORD TODAY**

*by Rev. William J. Reilly*

**Our Lord Jesus Christ,  
King of the Universe  
November 24, 2019**

**"As they approached to offer him wine they called out, 'If you are the king of the Jews, save yourself.' Above him there was an inscription, 'This is the King of the Jews...' ...Then he said, 'Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom.' He replied to him, 'Amen, I say to you, today you will be with me in paradise.'"**

The unforgettable word of forgiveness spoken on Calvary is a response for everyone who repents. As eyes close in death, may they open to the glory of His eternal kingdom.

How often people ask about the INRI written on the top of the cross. They are the artist's gift to remind us that it was Jesus who died, that He established the kingdom, the church, and that He is savior for all humankind.

Jesus taught us to pray 'your kingdom come'. We find that kingdom on earth in the church, and one day the fullness of His kingdom in glory. Today I am part of that kingdom, as I too have been anointed on the day of my baptism with Jesus - priest, prophet and king.

