

SAINT JOHN THE EVANGELIST

ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH



317 FIRST STREET • DUNELLEN • NEW JERSEY 08812



Christmas 2021



Dear St. John the Evangelist Parish Family,

May the peace of this Christmas season be with you and your loved ones. By now, Thanksgiving dinner is a distant memory. The excitement of shopping on Black Friday, Small Business Saturday and Cyber-Monday is gone.

Now is the time to slow down a bit and remember that the birth of Jesus, the Christ, is the true reason that we celebrate Christmas.

With this in mind, we have many ways to reconnect with our Lord and Savior at St. John's Parish. We invite you to join us for the Feast of Immaculate Conception on Wednesday December 8. Confessions are as usual every Saturday from 4 to 4:45 PM or by appointment. We hope you will attend our Sunday Masses, which are enriched by inspirational homilies from our priests and beautiful Christmas music sung by our choirs.

We encourage you to stop by the parish office to pick up a Mass card to honor or remember someone you love. Perhaps you might like to make the season a bit brighter for someone in need by donating a gift card in the poor box in the entrance of our Church.

Whichever way you choose to welcome Jesus this Christmas season, we hope that we will see you at St. John's Parish. Please note that the Christmas Vigil Masses are on Friday December 24 and Christmas day Masses will follow the Sunday schedule. Saturday December 25 at 5:00 PM will be the Vigil Mass for the Holy Family.

I wish you a blessed and Merry Christmas

Sincerely

Fr. Alphonsus Kariuki

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

Saturdays of Advent:
4:00 to 4:45 pm or by appointment
December 18 - 11:00 am to Noon and 4:00 to 4:45 pm

VIGIL OF THE NATIVITY ~ CHRISTMAS EVE

4:00 PM
6:00 PM
12 Midnight

NATIVITY OF THE LORD ~ CHRISTMAS DAY

8:30 AM
10:30 AM
12 NOON – SPANISH MASS

MASSES DURING THE CHRISTMAS SEASON

HOLY FAMILY OF JESUS, MARY AND JOSEPH
Saturday, December 25 at 5:00 pm - Vigil Mass
Sunday, December 26 - Regular Mass Schedule

MARY, MOTHER OF GOD
Saturday, January 1, 2022 at 8:00 am

THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD
Saturday, January 1, 2022 at 5:00 pm – Vigil Mass
Sunday, January 2, 2022 - Regular Mass Schedule

THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD
Sunday, January 9, 2022 - Regular Mass Schedule



DIOCESE OF METUCHEN

OFFICE OF THE BISHOP

November 12, 2021

Rev. Alphonsus Kariuki, Pastor
St. John the Evangelist Parish
317 First Street
Dunellen, NJ 08812

Dear Father Kariuki,

Please extend my sincere thanks to the parishioners of St. John the Evangelist Parish for their generous response to the 2021 Bishop's Annual Appeal. While your parish did not reach goal and earn a rebate, I truly appreciate your efforts on behalf of the appeal especially during these difficult months of the pandemic and in the aftermath of Hurricane Ida.

I am particularly grateful to you, your staff and your parish coordinators for the appeal who worked so hard to ensure the overall success of the campaign. Thanks to your parish's generosity, we are able to continue to fulfill our mission and live the Gospel message through our pastoral ministries and charitable outreach to those in need.

God bless you and be assured you have my heartfelt gratitude and prayers.

With renewed best wishes, I remain

Yours in Christ,

Most Reverend James F. Checchio, JCD, MBA
Bishop of Metuchen

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E: annual.appeal@diometuchen.org • <http://diometuchen.org>

MASS INTENTIONS



Monday, December 13

8:00 a.m. Lilian Johnston by the Snyder family

Tuesday, December 14

8:00 a.m. Kevin Quinn by his family

Wednesday, December 15

8:00 a.m. Mr. & Mrs. Stanislaw Zukowski
by Barbara Mastrian

Thursday, December 16

8:00 a.m. Diana Na by Rosemary & Ashley Ng

Friday, December 17

8:00 a.m. George Craig
by Don & Chiquita Laturell

Saturday, December 18

5:00 p.m. Henry Janssen by Madeline Janssen

Sunday, December 19

8:30 a.m. Brian Flynn by the Seader family

10:30 a.m. Parishioners of St. John's &
Charles Nunzello by Ramon &
Valerie Aldarondo

Noon Maria de la Luz Duarte by Lilia Celis



*Please pray for the sick
members of our parish:*

*Cathy Sloomaker
MaryAnn Briones*

Padrinos de Bautismo Y Confirmacion:

La ley eclesiástica manda que los padrinos para el bautismo y confirmación, deben ser católicos confirmados y activos en la parroquia, o sea que asistan a la misa dominical, ayudan al mantenimiento de la Iglesia, este casado/y por la Iglesia; si es soltero/a no debe estar en unión libre. Debe vivir una vida de acuerdo con las enseñanzas de la Iglesia. Solo Podemos entregar cartas a parroquianos que viven de acuerdo con estas normas.

Bautismos:

Los Bautismos en español son celebrados en el segundo domingo del mes a la 1:15 PM. No se celebran bautismos durante la Cuaresma. Para hacer arreglos para los bautismos en español, comuníquese con la oficina parroquial. Si la secretaria no puede contestar en ese momento, le puede dejar un mensaje con su número de teléfono para llamarle luego.

Formacion Religiosa—Catecismo:

Si usted es nuevo en la parroquia y quiere inscribir a su niño/a en las clases de catecismo, por favor comuníquese con la oficina parroquial.

RICA:

Adultos que deseen convertirse a la religión católica o que necesiten recibir Primera Comunión y o Confirmación, deben ponerse en contacto con la oficina de la parroquia para el Rito de Iniciación Cristiana de adultos

Matrimonios:

Los arreglos para la fecha de casamiento se deben hacer un año por anticipado, antes de hacer los arreglos sociales. Comuníquese con la oficina parroquial.

Ministerio de Visitar a Los Enfermos:

Comuníquese con la oficina parroquial. Si es una emergencia (en peligro de muerte) después de horas de oficina, llamar al número 732-685-1098

Confesiones en Espanol:

El padre está dispuesto después de la misa dominical. Por favor, comuníquese con él.

Círculo de Oración: todos los jueves a las 7:00 pm en la Iglesia. El último jueves del mes hay una Hora Santa a las 7:00pm.

Sacrificial Offerings 2021 Sunday, December 5

Regular Collection: \$5,088.00

Online Giving: \$ 852.55

Bills Paid This Week: \$3,290.00

Online Giving

Have you tried our new Parish online giving system? There are three ways to give through Tithe.ly:

*Through our website

*through our Facebook page

*using the Tithe.ly mobile giving App

When giving Tithe.ly you can donate by credit/debit card or bank transfer. You can also select "reoccurring gift" to automate your regular weekly offering so that it is donated automatically on a schedule that you choose. As with any automated service there is a small transaction fee for the church. You have the option to select "cover the fee" to make this transaction fee a part of your tax deductible gift. If you need assistance setting up a gift or learning how to use Tithe.ly email stjohnpcl@gmail.com

Give the Gift of Faith

Churches are dependent upon the generosity of others to fulfill their mission of spreading the Good News as mandated by Christ on the day of his Ascension. To perpetuate our church's mission in our area, please consider putting St. John the Evangelist Church in your will.



Collection Envelopes

Collection envelopes will no longer be mailed to the homes, but will be made available for

pick-up in church. As you exit, please stop by the tables to the left, by the holy water dispenser, to retrieve yours. For anyone who is unable to pick them up, please contact the office.

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. **Please note: there is a particular need for gluten free products.** 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.

Christmas Giving Tree Program



As we prepare to celebrate the "gift" of our Savior's birth let's also remember those in need. We're accepting gift cards from Target, Walmart, CVS and Shop Rite to be given to those families during this holy season. Your donation, with the amount noted on the card along with the receipt placed in an envelope marked "Gift Program" may be placed in the gift box in church or brought to the Parish Center no later than **Sunday, 12/12**. May peace and joy be with us all!



Christmas Memorials

You are invited to make a memorial donation for the Christmas season. Your donation will help provide flowers and decorations for the church. To participate you may pick up a form at the exits of the Church or simply write down your name, phone number, and the name of the person or persons you wish to memorialize and send it along with your payment to the Parish Center by **noon on Sunday, 12/12**.

Parish Ministry & Contacts

Activities & Fund Raising Committee:

Parish Office (732) 968-2621; stjev@verizon.net

Altar Rosary Society: Fran Furino
(732) 968-0846

Altar Servers: Parish Office (732) 968-2621;
stjev@verizon.net

Art & Environment Committee: Kate Guzzi,
(732) 977-2233; kguzzi@optimum.net

Casino Night Committee: Parish Office
(732) 968-2621; stjev@verizon.net

Catholic Daughters of the Americas:
Nina DiQuollo (908) 581-9450

Eucharistic Adoration: Maureen Shea
(732) 968-0136

Extra ordinary Ministers of Holy Communion: Gary & Lynne Guthreau;
gguthreau@optonline.net

Faith Formation & Catechists: Patricia Hummel,
PCL (732) 968-2621, x13; stjohnpcl@gmail.com

Finance Committee: John Fitzgerald

Golf Outing Committee: Parish Office
(732) 968-2621; stjev@verizon.net

Homebound Ministry: Mary Lou Chingery; Parish
Office (732) 968-2621; stjev@verizon.net

Hospitality Committee: Kate Guzzi
(732) 977-2233; kguzzi@optimum.net

Knights of Columbus Council 2544:
Keith Venturella; kventurella@optonline.net

Marriage Encounter: Eugene & Theresa Porras
(908) 930-1663

Money Counters: Joanna Kelly (732) 968-4324

Music Ministry: Edwin Lopez, Director of Sacred
Music, (732) 968-2621

Readers: Gary Guthreau; gguthreau@optonline.net

Social Concerns Ministry: Mary Lou Chingery
(732) 968-2621

Spanish Charismatic Prayer Group:
Gloria Labanda (732) 343-0680

Guadalupe Group: Ana Alpizar (732) 979-4663

Ushers: Mike Sciametta (908) 347-7902;
misciametta@optonline.net



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. Coast Guard Lt. Ed Sella
U.S. Marine Mer. Cpl. Thomas Tyler Lizak
U.S. Army Pfc. Sean Parente
U.S. Marine LCpl. Dante Parente
U.S. Army 2nd Lt. Casey Wenzel
U.S. Army Spec. 4 Timothy Francisco
U.S. Marine LCpl. Stephen Wright
U.S. Navy IT2 Kenneth Millman III
U.S. Navy HM3 Rosemary Plunkett
U.S. Marine RCT Dylan Kolakowski

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



December 12, 2021
3rd Sunday of Advent

*"Have no anxiety at all, but in everything,
by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving,
make your requests known to God."
(Philippians 4:6)*

St. Paul reminds us that God is an abundant
God – He is the ultimate giver of gifts. He
promises to give us all that we need.
Remember, that we are created in God's
image and likeness. We, too, are made to be
generous with all of our gifts as well.
Placing our trust in God frees us from being
a slave to possessions. It allows us to
gratefully and generously share ourselves
and our goods with others.

Whole Community Catechesis



Learning About the Mass continued...

The Second Reading

We learned about the Responsorial Psalm last week. There were 150 psalms written in the Old Testament.

After the Responsorial psalm, we hear the 2nd reading. The 2nd reading comes from the New Testament and while the New Testament is from the time of Jesus' Birth, the 2nd readings cover the time from after Jesus' death and resurrection and describe what happened in the early part of the church.

The 2nd readings include readings from either *The Acts of the Apostles*, *the Epistles*, or *the Book of Revelation*.^[1]

The Acts of the Apostles describes how Jesus' 12 chosen Apostles spread this new Faith in Jesus under the guidance of the Holy Spirit to not only the Jewish Community but to those outside of the Jewish community, known as the Gentiles.^[2]

The Epistles were letters written to an early church community. Many of the Epistles were written by Saint Paul. St. Paul originally wasn't a saint. He used to persecute the new Christians until one day he had a miraculous conversion after he fell to the ground and heard Jesus speaking to Him. He became blind for three days before regaining his sight. He then became a great leader of the Christian faith. Today's 2nd reading is a letter from Paul to the Philippians. The Epistles were written to teach Christians how to show our love for Jesus in our everyday lives.^[3]

The Book of Revelation, which is the last book in the Bible, is an account of the mysterious vision that was given to Saint John -revealing how Christ will Triumph over Satan.

The 2nd reading is often chosen independently of the first reading and the Gospel.

Taken From: Biblical Walk through the Mass (Sri), The New American Bible (Introduction), Mass Lessons Compiled by Deirdre Nemeth

Spiritual Adoption Program

The Office of Catechesis would like to connect our Parishioners and Catechesis families through the gift of prayer. Raising children in faith takes a lot of spiritual support. If you do not currently have a child in the Catechesis program but feel that you could pray daily for a family that does, would you consider spiritually adopting a catechesis family to keep in daily prayer? If this sounds like something you might be interested in please contact the Office of Catechesis, stjohnpcl@gmail.com, 732-968-2621 ext 13.

Preparing the Way for Christ

As part of the Diocese of Metuchen's 40th Anniversary celebration, the Diocese will welcome Dr. Scott Hahn to the **Cathedral of St. Francis of Assisi in Metuchen**, where he will present an evening on the Holy Season of Advent through the lens of evangelization, "Preparing the Way for Christ" on **Tuesday, 12/14 at 7 p.m.** All are welcome to attend, though registration is required. Admission is free and donations are appreciated. To learn more or to register, visit: diometuchen.org/40.

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