

# 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

FEAST OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION

Tuesday December 7 at 7:00 pm in Spanish

December 8, 8:00 am, 12:00 Noon and 7:00 pm in English

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

Transformed by Christ's Body & Blood...  
Sent on Mission to Light a Fire in the Heart of the Church

St. John Neumann Pastoral Center • P.O. Box 4000, Metuchen, New Jersey 08840-4000 • P: 732.562.1990  
E: [annual.appeal@diometuchen.org](mailto:annual.appeal@diometuchen.org) • <http://diometuchen.org>

## MASS INTENTIONS



### Monday, December 6

8:00 a.m. Alfano Virginia  
by Cosimo & Lina Giordano

### Tuesday, December 7

8:00 a.m. Chiara Martone  
by Cosimo & Lina Giordano

### Wednesday, December 8

8:00 a.m. Adolph Horbotowicz  
by Barbara Mastrian  
Noon Alicia Glennon by Kevin Glennon  
7:00 p.m. John Cashin  
by Louis & Eileen Capozzi

### Thursday, December 9

8:00 a.m. Richard Janssen  
by Cliff & Carol Rockwell

### Friday, December 10

8:00 a.m. Jerry Ott by Lynn & Gary Guthreau

### Saturday, December 11

5:00 p.m. Scott Patronick by Patronick, Dowd & Woerner families

### Sunday, December 12

8:30 a.m. George Weiss by the Weiss family  
10:30 a.m. Brian Flynn by the Confalone family  
Noon William, Josephine & Andrew Au  
by the Au family



*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, comuniqués 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, November 28

Regular Collection: \$4,145.35  
Online Giving: \$ 555.84

*\*The expense amount for this week was not available at time of publication.*

#### 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](mailto: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.



#### Thank You for Your Thanksgiving Donations!

Food donations for Thanksgiving were so plentiful! Individual families received all the Thanksgiving fixings. Leftovers went to FISH and our parish pantry will be able to cover needs for weeks to come. Thanks to our generous parish families!

#### 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!





## **Parish Ministry & Contacts**

### ***Activities & Fund Raising Committee:***

Parish Office (732) 968-2621; [stjev@verizon.net](mailto:stjev@verizon.net)

### ***Altar Rosary Society:*** Fran Furino

(732) 968-0846

### ***Altar Servers:*** Parish Office (732) 968-2621;

[stjev@verizon.net](mailto:stjev@verizon.net)

### ***Art & Environment Committee:*** Kate Guzzi,

(732) 977-2233; [kguzzi@optimum.net](mailto:kguzzi@optimum.net)

### ***Casino Night Committee:*** Parish Office

(732) 968-2621; [stjev@verizon.net](mailto: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](mailto:gguthreau@optonline.net)

### ***Faith Formation & Catechists:*** Patricia Hummel,

PCL (732) 968-2621, x13; [stjohnpcl@gmail.com](mailto:stjohnpcl@gmail.com)

### ***Finance Committee:*** John Fitzgerald

### ***Golf Outing Committee:*** Parish Office

(732) 968-2621; [stjev@verizon.net](mailto:stjev@verizon.net)

### ***Homebound Ministry:*** Mary Lou Chingery; Parish

Office (732) 968-2621; [stjev@verizon.net](mailto:stjev@verizon.net)

### ***Hospitality Committee:*** Kate Guzzi

(732) 977-2233; [kguzzi@optimum.net](mailto:kguzzi@optimum.net)

### ***Knights of Columbus Council 2544:***

Keith Venturella; [kventurella@optonline.net](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto:misciametta@optonline.net)



## **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**.



## **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 2<sup>nd</sup> 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.

## Whole Community Catechesis



### Learning About the Mass continued...

#### Responsorial Psalm

After we hear the First Reading, we respond next with God's own inspired words of praise and thanksgiving from the book of Psalms. We usually sing what we call the "Responsorial Psalm" which is also from the Old Testament.

There are 150 Psalms in the bible and many of the psalms were written by King David. King David was God's chosen King of Israel.

**Why do we sing the psalms?** Psalms were written as sacred hymns meant to be sung in public worship in the Temple Liturgy. It may surprise some Catholics to discover that many of our church rituals in the Mass are based on synagogue customs that Jesus followed. A synagogue was a place of worship for the Israelites like churches are places of worship.

Many of the psalms were written precisely for Jewish public worship in which a community was urged to joyfully sing out the praise of God in response to hearing the Bible readings proclaimed. The psalms give praise and thanksgiving to God as well as express grief or sorrow and a cry for help to God. The psalms are our hearts' response to what we hear in the First reading. For instance, when someone says something that strikes us deeply, we cannot help but express our joyful agreement. It's as if we are saying "Yes! That's exactly right!"

This is why it's so important we pay attention to the First reading because it will correspond in some way to the Responsorial psalm. We can, therefore, more purposefully and joyfully respond by singing out the psalm at Mass. Today's Responsorial Psalm is "Blessed are the Poor in spirit, the Kingdom of heaven is theirs."

Taken from: The Biblical Walk Through the Mass (Sri), The Mass Explained (Moroney), USCCB.org, and Mass Lessons Compiled by Dierdre Nemeth

#### Verse of the Month:

*Luke 1:38* - Mary said, "Behold, I am the handmaid of the Lord. May it be done to me according to your word." Then the angel departed from her.

#### Saint of the Month:

*St. Nicholas, December 6* -The giver of every good and perfect gift has called upon us to mimic His giving, by grace, through faith.

#### 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](mailto:stjohnpcl@gmail.com), 732-968-2621 ext 13.



**December 5, 2021**  
**2nd Sunday of Advent**

*"And this is my prayer: that your love may increase ever more and more in knowledge and every kind of perception, to discern what is of value..." (Philippians 1:9-10)*

During the Christmas shopping season it is easy to get caught up in the frenzy of buying gifts. But, is that "gift" truly an expression of your love for the other person. Or, are you just fulfilling your "obligation" to give them something? To grow in friendship with someone, you need to spend time with them, learn what is of value to them. Maybe this year, buy less "stuff" and spend more time with those you love.

**GREENBROOK MEMORIALS**  
Monuments • Marker • Bronze Plaques  
103 Bound Brook Rd., Middlesex  
**732-968-2543**  
Greg Pinho, Proprietor

**30BURGERS & Mike's SUBS**  
**732-968-3253** **10% OFF**  
14 SOUTH WASHINGTON AVE.  
DUNELLEN, NJ

CARPET & UPHOLSTERY CLEANING  
CARPET • VINYL • WOOD FLOORS  
QUALITY FLOORS & INSTALLATIONS  
**HARTY Bros.**  
www.hartybros.com **Carpet & VINYL**  
392 Somerset St., No. Plainfield, NJ **908-753-0044**

Thomas E. Sheenan, CFSP  
OWNER/MANAGER  
NJ Lic. 2592  
  
233 DUNELLEN AVENUE  
DUNELLEN, NEW JERSEY 08812  
p: (732) 968-4227  
WWW.SHEENANFH.COM

**Carl's Ice Cream Shoppe Corner**  
ICE CREAM  
SUNDAES  
ITALIAN ICE  
GELATI  
**732-624-9338** **10% OFF**  
14 SOUTH WASHINGTON AVE., DUNELLEN

Inspire Art Gallery & Studio  
Get inspired ... create art  
ADULT & KIDS ART CLASSES ... CALL FOR TIMES  
ART SUPPLIES AVAILABLE  
P: 732-752-9200 HIL VAN DENMARK C: 732-762-7000  
www.inspireartgalleryandstudio.com  
@inspireartgalleryandstudio @getinspiredart2018  
449 NORTH AVENUE | DUNELLEN, NJ 08812

So comfortable you'll never want to get out of bed.  
**MATTRESS SALE**  
**FREE LOCAL DELIVERY**  
Lowest Prices On Quality Mattresses & Furniture  
SAVE ON:  
BEDROOM SETS, TRUNDLE BEDS,  
BUNK BEDS, ELECTRIC BEDS,  
DRESSERS, & MORE...  
**908-405-3952** **EASY SLEEP**  
**732-424-6517** **Mattresses & Furniture**

**SUPERFOOD FRESH MARKET**  
We Are Your Hometown Grocer!  
We Offer **FREE RIDE** from and to your home!  
WITH \$50.00 PURCHASE OR MORE.  
Available until 7:00pm. Call store for full schedule.  
**732-667-7812**  
738 Union Avenue • Middlesex, NJ  
Visit our Website at  
**WWW.SUPERFOODFRESH.COM**

**Britland AUTO BODY**  
Edgar Chaves, Lic. #00533A  
226 ROUTE 22 WEST • GREEN BROOK • 732-752-5522

**Mis Amigos MEXICAN Grill**  
Especialidad En Comida Mexicana  
Closed Wednesdays  
**732.926.1178**  
373 North Avenue • Dunellen  
misamigosmexicangrill.com

**The Canhandlers Residential & Commercial Trash Removal**  
Dunellen, NJ  
**732-752-5912**

**COMPETITIVE RATES**  
FULLY LICENSED & INSURED  
COMMERCIAL & RESIDENTIAL  
ROLL OFF SERVICES & RECYCLING  
1 1/2 TO 30 YARD CONTAINERS AVAILABLE  
Locally Owned & Operated For Over 20 Years

**THE CUT**  
732.752.4900  
258 NORTH AVENUE • DUNELLEN  
INTHECUTBARBERS.COM

**TOWN Plumbing & Heating**  
J.J. Fosbre & Sons  
Lic. No. 5688  
**732-968-1220**

~ LAW OFFICE OF ~  
**NADINE B. AMAYA, P.C.**  
Immigration Attorney  
• Naturalization/Ciudadanía  
• DACA, TPS, Asylum/Asilo  
• TPS  
• Family Based Visa Petition/  
Petición de Visa Basada  
en la Familia  
• Consular Visa Processing/  
Procesión de Visa Consulares  
• Deportation Defense/  
Defensa de Deportación  
To learn more, visit our website:  
www.amayalawfirm.net  
**Se Habla Español**  
908-533-9180  
1030 SOUTH AVE W, STE. 1B  
WESTFIELD, NJ 07090

**GREEN BROOK PANCAKE HOUSE**  
Sunday-Tuesday  
8:00am - 3:30pm  
Wednesday-Saturday  
8:00am - 7:30pm  
**732-424-9191**  
297 US 22 EAST • GREEN BROOK TWP

**DISTINCTIVE DENTISTRY**  
PREVENTATIVE • RESTORATIVE • AESTHETIC  
CAROLYN A. SHEENAN, D.M.D., C.A.G.S.  
JOACHIM M. PROVENZANO, D.M.D.  
239 DUNELLEN AVE., DUNELLEN • 424-1111

**Rocio's Unisex Hair Salon**  
732-752-0657 sasimana@yahoo.com  
1864 West Front Street • Plainfield, NJ 07060  
Check website for monthly specials  
rociosunisexhairsalon.com

**DUNELLENHOTEL**  
CHRISTENINGS • COMMUNIONS  
REHEARSAL DINNERS • REPAST  
BUSINESS MEETINGS • PRIVATE PARTIES  
CATERING • BANQUET FACILITIES  
www.dunellenhotel.com  
**732-968-2900**  
120 No. Washington Ave., Dunellen, NJ

**ROME PIZZA**  
QUICK SERVICE SINCE 1967  
The Pizza Specialists!  
EAT-IN OR TAKE-OUT  
Weekend Deliveries  
334 No. Ave., Dunellen **732-968-1394**  
**BRENDA VAZQUEZ-RIVERA**  
Sales Associate  
**732-522-0255** cell  
BRENDA.RIVERA@ERASTATEWIDE.COM  
HOMESBYBRENDA.COM  
Each ERA Office is Independently Owned and Operated

**DARIUS GRILL GRILL GRILL**  
Dine In • Take Out  
Delivery  
**732-867-8773**  
269 Route 22 E  
Green Brook  
www.dagrills.com

**ALL THINGS BASEMENTY!**  
**WET BASEMENT?**  
Quality 1st Basement Systems  
• WATERPROOFING & FINISHING  
• FOUNDATION PROBLEMS  
• HUMIDITY & MOLD CONTROL  
• NASTY CRAWL SPACES  
Contact us for a FREE ESTIMATE!  
**866-588-8317**  
BasementRepairNJ.com  
NY Lic # 1274423 • NJ HIC# 13VH01833300

**NEED A LAWYER? INJURED ON THE JOB?**  
**MARC J. BRENNER ESQ.**  
Personal Injury  
Workers' Compensation  
Social Security Disability  
★ CALL FOR A FREE LEGAL CONSULTATION ★  
**(973) 326-8902**  
222 RIDGEDALE AVENUE • CEDAR KNOLLS  
315 BROAD STREET • BLOOMFIELD

**CAPITAL INK**  
OPEN EVERY DAY  
12PM-8PM  
(732) 529-5578  
@Capital\_ink36  
12 SOUTH WASHINGTON AVENUE  
DUNELLEN, NJ 08812  
capitaltattoo36@gmail.com

**McCriskin-Gustafson**  
FAMILY OF FUNERAL HOMES • INDEPENDENT & LOCAL  
www.mccriskinfuneralhome.com  
Piscataway • Middlesex • South Plainfield  
♦ Pre-Arrangements ♦ SSI/Medicaid Protection ♦ Cremation Services  
Customized Cultural Services ♦ Financial Assistance Available  
"Independent Family Owned & Operated Funeral Homes"  
"At a Difficult Time, Experience Does Count"  
**908-561-8000**  
James A. Gustafson, Pres./Mgr. N.J. Lic. No. 4205  
Richard W. McCriskin, II - V. Pres. N.J. Lic. No. 4564 • Kerri-Anne Krapf, Director, N.J. Lic. No. 5045  
Daniel M. Erickson, Director, N.J. Lic. No. 4798 • Lauren J. Lapola, Director, N.J. Lic. No. 4816