
MASS INTENTIONS

Sunday, February 16

- 8:30 am Parishioners of St. John's &
Dot Maritz
by Kim Rabouin Wood
10:30 am Richard Winkelman
by Terry & Matt Kurzius

Monday, February 17

- 7:00 am Catherine Purritano
by Joe & Sharyn Szulczewski

Tuesday, February 18

- 7:00 am Ronald Shea by Gail & Jeff Woerner

Wednesday, February 19

- 7:00 am Rella Diamond Risoli
by Bill, Pat & Will Hughes

Thursday, February 20

- 7:00 am Ronald Shea by Sue Ellen Bibby

Friday, February 21

- 7:00 am John Maier by Ruth Gruber

Saturday, February 22

- 5:00 pm Isabel Sandifer & Elmer Yambor
by brother Fran

Sunday, February 23

- 8:30 am Ted Kotz by Matt & Terry Kurzius
10:30 am Parishioners of St. John's &
Julia DiQuollo
by loving children

*This week our Sanctuary lamp is lit in memory of
Salvatore & Susana DiStefano by
DiStefano family.*

**Sacrificial Offerings 2019
Sunday, February 9**

Regular Collection: \$4,984.10

Parish Secretary

St. John the Evangelist is seeking a part-time parish secretary, Monday-Thursday from 9:00 am until 2:00 pm. Applicants must have good communication and organizational skills, be proficient in Microsoft Word and Excel programs. Familiarity with ParishSOFT is a plus, but must be willing to learn. Duties include maintaining accurate parish records, answering telephones and taking messages as needed. Daily functions also include arranging Mass intentions, sponsor eligibility certificates and arranging baptisms, weddings and funerals. Applicants must be a practicing Catholic and work collaboratively with parish community and staff. Interested applicants are invited to send a resume by email to akariuki@diometuchen.org. No phone calls will be accepted.

Parish Office Hours

The Parish Office will be closed on Monday, February 17 for President's Day and will reopen on Tuesday, February 18.

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 or making a donation of appreciated securities (stocks, mutual funds, bonds) or making a recurring or onetime gift using your bank account, credit or debit card. More information regarding these types of planned giving may be found by contacting the Diocesan Office of Stewardship & Development at 732-562-2432 or at <http://diometuchen.plannedgiving.org/>. Thank you.

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.

Stewardship: A Way of Life

“For I tell you, unless your righteousness exceeds that of the scribes and Pharisees, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven.” MATTHEW 5:20

The scribes and Pharisees lived according to the letter of the law and they used this to elevate themselves above the other people. Jesus is clear – it’s the love that you have in your heart that will get you to heaven. Simply following church rules out of obligation, not love, does not put you on the path to heaven. Attending Mass on Sunday and then gossiping about a fellow parishioner on the parking lot is an example of a modern day Pharisee. We are thankful for the efforts of

The Casino Night Committee

Mount Saint Mary House of Prayer

Ho Hum, It’s Lent Again. Make This Year Count.

Come for a day of personal and communal reflection that will help you enter this season through the images and scripture of Lent. Lunch is included. **Sat., Feb. 29, 10 a.m.-3 p.m.** (\$50-\$60 as you are able)
Presenter: Honora Nolty, OP. Sr. Honora is an Associate Director at RENEW International.

Monthly Youth Mass

The next Youth Mass will be **Sunday, March 1 at 10:30 AM**. Any teen interested in serving or wanting to learn more please contact Patricia Hummel at stjohnpcl@gmail.com. Service opportunities include lector, greeters, ushers, choir members, and altar servers.

Youth Choir Practice

Anyone interested in singing in the Youth Choir at the next Youth Mass on March 1st, please stay for a few minutes after the 10:30 Mass on **Sunday, February 16th** for a brief practice.

Children's Liturgy of the Word

Children's Liturgy of the Word will be held during the 5:00 PM Mass on **Saturday 2/22** and every Sunday during the 10:30 AM Mass. Following the Opening Prayer at Masses, all children PreK to 4th grade are invited to join our catechists to hear the Liturgy of the Word proclaimed in a child friendly language.

Catholic Press Month

The annual drive to support our diocesan newspaper, The Catholic Spirit, is taking place during the month of February, National Catholic Press Month. Please support their good work by using the envelope in your packet. Any amount you contribute will show your support for the ministry of The Catholic Spirit and will be greatly appreciated. And please remember to take home a copy of the paper – it has a special role to play in your life as a practicing Catholic.

2020 Bishop's Annual Appeal
Stepping Forward in Faith:
Grace in Action

Please watch your mailbox for a letter from Bishop Checchio coming to you this week announcing the 2020 Bishop's Annual Appeal. The campaign will again be conducted during Lent and our parish can earn a rebate of 50% of the amount collected over goal.

Through your support of the Bishop's Annual Appeal you help those in our diocese whose needs are the greatest—the poor, the homeless, and those struggling with illness or grief. Among other needed pastoral ministries, your gift also supports the formation of seminarians and enhances the work of campus ministry through the Catholic Center at Rutgers University. The many pastoral, educational and charitable ministries of the Diocese of Metuchen would not be possible without a generous contribution from every household. Please be as generous as your means allow.



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 2nd 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.

Attention Men of the Parish

Unlike any other therapeutic means available today, silent retreats create a sacred, meditative atmosphere that is perfect for knowing God better, listening to Him and coming to grips with ourselves. And, for some mysterious reason helps us to open up to others, especially close loved ones. Join me and my retreat group for a silent retreat at the **Loyola Jesuit Center in Morristown, March 6th to 8th** starting with supper at 7:00 PM on Friday and ending at 12:30 PM on Sunday. Please call me for more information and reservations – Tony Pugliesi, 908-419-8392.

Stress in Your Marriage!

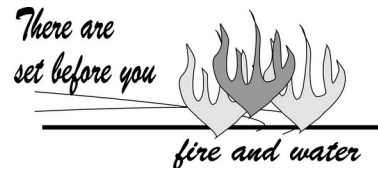
Do you feel lost, alone or bored in your marriage? Are you frustrated, hurt or angry with your spouse? Are you constantly fighting? Or, do you simply shut down? Have you thought about separation or divorce? Does talking about it only make it worse? Retrouvaille is a lifeline to help couples heal and renew their marriages. The program consists of a weekend experience for married couples (no group discussions) with six follow-up sessions. **UPCOMING WEEKEND: February 21-23, 2020**
 For Information and to Register: Call Rich Colasuonno: 732-236-0671
 Or Annette Colasuonno: 732-672-0748 or email 3024@retrouvaille.org

Diocesan Eucharistic Adoration

Eucharistic Adoration is now being held in the chapel at the St. John Neumann Pastoral Center, 146 Metlars Lane, Piscataway. Adorers and intercessors are needed Monday through Friday, 9 to 11:45 a.m. Daily Mass is held at 11:45 a.m. For information or to become an adorer, call Laura Riccardi, (609) 578-0841. To submit a prayer request, call (732) 765-6445 or email Adoration@diometuchen.org.

**Adult Enrichment Classes –
Matthew’s Sermon on the Mount**
The Diocesan Office of Adult Faith Formation will be offering a four-week course, which will meet each **Wednesday beginning March 11, 2020** at the **St. John Neumann Pastoral Center** from **10 to 11:15 a.m.** The classes will explore and examine Chapters 5-7 of Matthew’s gospel in which the Beatitudes are couched. Through the use of PowerPoint slides, Q & A and the “New American Bible,” students will have a better grasp of what God is communicating through the pen of the second evangelist. This Adult Enrichment class is free of charge and open to anyone who is interested. Registration is required. To register please visit <https://diometuchen.org/faith-formation> For additional information, please contact Angela Marshall at amarshall@diometuchen.org or call (732) 562-1543.

Hope through Education
Hope through Education, a newly incorporated independent nonprofit, was formed to significantly increase the tuition assistance available to low-income families living in Middlesex, Hunterdon, Somerset and Warren counties, to allow them the chance to choose the best school for their child regardless of their ability to afford the full cost of tuition. Hope through Education has the approval of Bishop James F. Checchio, who stands in support of its mission. The nonprofit is staffed, operational and already at work to increase the number of scholarships available to families with the greatest financial need. Information on how to apply will be available shortly. For more information, please contact Hope through Education at info@hopethrougheducationusa.org.



A FRESH PERSPECTIVE ON THE
SUNDAY READINGS

HIS WORD TODAY
by Rev. William J. Reilly

**Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time
February 16, 2020**

“If you choose you can keep the commandments, they will save you, if you trust in God, you too shall live. He has set before you fire and water to whichever you choose, stretch forth your hand. Before man are life and death, good and evil, whichever he chooses shall be given him.”

How blessed we are with freedom of choice. On a daily basis we make countless choices, some of little importance, others of great significance. Many times we give little thought to what we decide and choose. At other times we debate, struggle and finally make our choice.

As we reflect on the word of God today, may we wholeheartedly make the right choices. To help us keep the commandments, whether the short form of love of God and our neighbor, or the ten given to Moses on the tablets of stone, try seeing them as directives for sound living, not prohibitions but positive. The commandments we choose are based upon a single word – RESPECT. I respect God and my neighbor. I respect His name and His day. I respect authority, life, my sexuality and that of others, I respect the truth, property and in my thoughts, I respect other people and what is theirs.

We have been given these aides for our Christian living, not obstacles we need to hurdle. This might be the true meaning of pro-choice, for it helps us to be pro-life, our lives in the Lord.