

Sunday

March 17, 2019



Mass Intentions

Monday, 3/18

7:00 a.m. Anna Fitzgerald by Magyar
Bank, Branchburg Office

Tuesday, 3/19

7:00 a.m. Cliff Vail by Diane & Cliff Vail

Wednesday, 3/20

7:00 a.m. Christopher Roland Furtado by
Rosemary Ng

Thursday, 3/21

7:00 a.m. In honor of daughter Maria by
Amuras Petravicus

Friday, 3/22

7:00 a.m. George Weiss by family

Saturday, 3/23

5:00 p.m. John Carlisle by
Barbara Carlisle & family

Sunday, 3/24

8:30 a.m. Parishioners of St. John's &
Rafela Towns by Dianne & Tim
10:30 a.m. Vito Manno by Enza DiStefano

*This week our Sanctuary lamp is lit in memory of
Clotilda D' Souza by the Miller family.*

*This week our Chapel candle is lit in memory of Mary
& William Benwell by Msgr. Benwell.*

Sunday, March 10

Regular Collection: \$4,643.43

Ash Wednesday: \$1,329.02

Poor Box Collection

Monies collected in the poor boxes located in the Church entryway are used for the needy in our parish. Your generosity is greatly appreciated. **Please be as generous as your means allow.**

Easter Memorial Donations

Easter Memorial forms will be available beginning next weekend. Your donations will help provide flowers and decorations for the church. **Deadline for submission is 4/11.** Thank you.

2020 Mass Intention Book

The 2020 Mass intention Book will open on **Tuesday, 3/26 at 9:30 am.**

Rosary Altar Meeting Rescheduled

The Rosary Altar meeting originally scheduled for 3/4 was rescheduled due to the snow. **It will now take place on Monday, 3/18 at noon.** The rosary will be prayed in the church and lunch will follow in the auditorium. Please bring a sandwich. The dessert and coffee will be provided. You are encouraged to bring a friend.

Scrip Orders Due

Scrip orders are due **3/24**. The pick-up date is **4/7** so if anyone wants something for Easter it will be here in time.

From Msgr. Benwell

The third and final installment of Pope Francis' Lenten Message ...

The Healing Power of Repentance and Forgiveness

The path to Easter demands that we renew our faces and hearts as Christians through repentance, conversion and forgiveness, so as to live fully the abundant grace of the paschal mystery [Christ's passion, death and resurrection]. It invites Christians to embody the paschal mystery more deeply and concretely in their personal, family and social lives, above all by fasting, prayer and almsgiving.

Fasting is learning to turn away from the temptation to "devour" everything to satisfy our greed and being ready to suffer for love, which can fill the emptiness of our hearts. Prayer teaches us to abandon idolatry and the self-sufficiency of our ego, and to acknowledge our need of the Lord and his mercy. In almsgiving we escape from the insanity of hoarding everything for ourselves in the illusory belief that we can secure a future that does not belong to us. Thus we rediscover the joy of God's plan for creation and for each of us, which is to love Him, our brothers and sisters, and the entire world, and to find in this love our true happiness.

Dear brothers and sisters, let us not allow this season of grace to pass in vain! Let us ask God to help us set out on a path of true conversion. Let us leave behind our selfishness and self-absorption, and turn to Jesus. Let us stand beside our brothers and sisters in need, sharing our spiritual and material goods with them. In this way, by concretely welcoming Christ's victory over sin and death into our lives, we will also radiate its transforming power to all creation. (Pope Francis)

My continued prayers for a fruitful, grace-filled Lent. - Msgr. Benwell

Mass and Adoration During Lent

Please note that all Masses during the season of Lent will be **in the church**. Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament during Lent will be held on Friday, beginning after the 7:00 am Mass. Adoration will conclude with Benediction after Stations of the Cross.

Stations Of The Cross

The ancient devotion of Stations of the Cross will be celebrated on the Fridays of Lent at **7:00 pm** in the **church**.



Easter Egg Hunt

Please join us for our annual Easter Egg Hunt **following the 10:30 Mass** on **Easter Sunday, 4/21** around the Parish Center. All children 9 and under are invited to participate. No registration is necessary. If you are interested in donating, candy/prizes may be dropped off at the Parish Center. If you have any questions please contact Patricia Hummel, [908-922-6037](tel:908-922-6037)/phum@optonline.net

2019 Bishop's Annual Appeal

Help Build a Civilization of Love

This weekend, parishes throughout the Diocese of Metuchen are celebrating ***Bishop's Annual Appeal In-Pew Weekend***. Our goal is for every family to participate. Every gift, no matter the size, is important and greatly appreciated. Together, we are working to become kindling that is set aflame by the Holy Spirit, allowing God's love and power to burn more brightly here in the Diocese of Metuchen. Thank you for actively participating in this mission by your financial support.

St. John Food Pantry

Our Food Pantry for those less fortunate is in need of the following food products: Dry pasta, cereals, tomato sauce, canned soups, canned meats, canned fruit and juice. Please note that all foods that are donated to St. John's will be brought to the FISH Food Pantry located on New Market Rd., Piscataway. Thank you in advance for your continued 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 benefits from the sacrificial gift one makes of his/her time, talent and treasure. We gratefully acknowledge and salute:

Our Eucharistic Ministers

Thank you for your participation!



Thank you to **Barbara Carlisle** who is donating this year's Paschal Candle in memory of Johnny Carlisle, Bill Drumgould and Howard Hartfelder.

Knights of Columbus



Lenten Fish Fry

The Knights of Columbus will be holding their Lenten Fish Fries on all Friday's during Lent, beginning on **3/8 through 4/19**. They will be held between **5:00 - 7:00 PM** at the **Council Home, 647 Grove Street, Dunellen**. All are welcome to attend.



**Pray
for the
Military**

Prayers for Our Service Members

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

U.S. Navy 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
US Marine Pvt. 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.

Pilgrimage With Bishop Checchio

You are invited to join our bishop on a pilgrimage to the Shrine of Our Lady of Guadalupe, Mexico, in preparation for the Consecration of our diocese to Our Lady of Guadalupe. The pilgrimage will take place from **October 20-24**. For more information, call 732-562-1990 or email

Evangelization@diometuchen.org.

Mount Saint Mary House of Prayer

UPCOMING PROGRAMS: Registration required;

call 908-753-2091 or e-mail:

msmhope@msmhope.org

"SO, HOW'S IT GOIN?" - Examining the Examen for Beginners and the Rest of Us

Join us as we look at the Examen, a way to prayerfully reflect on the events of our lives and see how God is present in them, as taken from the Exercises of Ignatius of Loyola. We'll explore the 5 steps of this process and see how it can not only be a "rear-view mirror" for our day, but also a "windshield" to help us see the road ahead, in as little as 10 minutes. No experience necessary!

Mon, Mar 18, 7-9 p.m. (\$20-\$30 as you are able).

Presenter: Mary Foy

Mary currently serves as pastoral associate at St. Joseph Church, North Plainfield and as a project manager for RENEW International.

Project Child Find

Project Child Find is a free referral service and public awareness campaign to assist with the identification of unserved and underserved youth with a delay or disability from birth to age 21. Project Child Find develops and distributes information about Early Intervention Services and Special Education Programs in our area. Parent inquiries may be made to the Dunellen School District Office of Special Services at 732-968-0885, ext. 16 and the Green Brook School District Department of Student Services at 732-968-1171. All calls received are confidential.

Diocesan Eucharistic Adoration

Eucharistic Adoration is held in the **chapel of the St. John Neumann Pastoral Center, 146 Metlars Lane, Piscataway, Monday through Friday from 9:00 am to 11:45 am.** Mass follows at 11:45. Adorers and intercessors are needed. For more information or to volunteer, call Laura Ferreras, 732-529-7932. To submit a prayer request, email Adoration@diometuchen.org or call 732-765-6445.

IHM Discernment Retreat

Discernment Retreat, **Friday, 3/22 (6pm)-Sunday, 3/24 (1pm), Villa Maria House of Studies, 220 IHM Drive, Malvern, PA 19355.** Experience a weekend retreat at the IHM Motherhouse with the Sisters, Servants of the Immaculate Heart of Mary sisters and novices. Single young women ages 18-35 are invited to come for a weekend of prayer, spiritual conferences, meals, and times of recreation with the sisters. Daily Mass, Liturgy of the Hours, and Eucharistic adoration are included in our weekend retreat. **Contact: Sister Marianne at 610-889-1553 or ihmvoc@gmail.com.**

Cursillo 10th Annual Encounter With Christ

The *Cursillo 10th Annual Encounter With Christ* will be held at **Mary, Mother of God Parish, 157 South Triangle Rd, Hillsborough, on Saturday, 4/16 from 8 am to 3 pm.** Our distinguished speakers will be **Fr. Glenn Sudano, CFR of the Franciscan Friars of the Renewal** (Saint Joseph Friary, New York, NY) and **Deacon Sal Bonfiglio, OFS (Secular Franciscan Order).** The theme of the Encounter is "*Our Lady of Guadalupe – Star of the New Evangelization*".

This year, the Metuchen Cursillo Movement is pleased to sponsor The Awakening, a multi-parish event that will help to prepare us for the diocesan consecration to Our Lady of Guadalupe. It will be an inspirational day of Talks, Music, Prayer, Lunch, Adoration, Confession, and celebration of the Mass. *There is no charge for the event; but a free will offering will be accepted.* ALL ARE WELCOME. To register, please log on to <http://metcursillo.org/events-encounter.htm>.

Encounter Christ through Cursillo (pronounced "kur-see-yo"). Please see our web site www.metcursillo.org for more details.