

APRIL 5, 2026

ALLELUIA!  
HE IS RISEN.



# ST. JOSEPH CHURCH

*THE OLDEST CATHOLIC PARISH IN NEW JERSEY!*

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Office@saintjoseph-nj.org | WWW.StJoseph-NJ.org/

**SERVED BY:**

**Fr. Jakub Grzybowski** Pastor  
**Deacon Steve McKenzie** Permanent Deacon

**Sister Marie Elise, F.S.S.E** – Business Office Manager & Local Youth Protection/Safe Environment Coordinator  
**Gregory Marra** – Director of Religious Education & Music Director

**Roberta Trudell, Mark Trudell, Connor Murphy, Pam Brown** – Office Support Staff

**Jenifer Anderson** – Cemetery Administrative Assistant & Food Pantry Administrative Assistant

**Donna Petronchak** – Food Pantry Director

**PARISH OFFICE HOURS:**

Monday & Wednesday 9:00–3:00 pm  
Tuesday & Thursday 10:00–3:00 pm  
Closed Friday

**CONFESSION SCHEDULE:**

Saturday 4:00pm – 4:30pm  
First Friday of the Month 5:00pm – 5:30pm

**Polish Mass** – 6:30 pm Every First Saturday of the month

**For Questions About the Cemetery** or to make an appointment to view available plots, please call Jenifer between 10:00 AM – 2:00 PM on Monday, Tuesday, and Thursday: (973) 697-6100, ext. 5. You may also email Jenifer at jenifer@saintjoseph-nj.org.

**Funeral Masses and Interments:** Arrangements for funeral Masses and interments are coordinated through the cemetery administrator upon notification by the family of the deceased or a funeral director. To arrange a funeral or interment, please call Jenifer at the number listed above. Your call will be returned promptly.

**Sacrament of Baptism:** Information about the Sacrament of Baptism may be found on the parish website. www.stjoseph-nj.org. If you wish your child to receive the Sacrament of Baptism, please contact the Parish Office.

**Marriages:** Please contact the Parish Office one year in advance of your wedding to arrange for Pre-Cana Marriage Preparation Sessions.

**Visitation of the Sick and Elderly:** Please keep us informed so that we can be attentive to those who are ill at home or in the hospital.

**Order of Christian Initiation for Adults (OCIA):** We wish to invite anyone interested in becoming a Catholic or a Catholic who would like information on receiving the Sacraments of Eucharist and or Confirmation to please call the Parish Office.

**MASS INTENTIONS**

**APRIL 5, 2026**

THE RESURRECTION OF THE LORD

**MONDAY, APR 6 – MONDAY WITHIN THE OCTAVE OF EASTER**

**6:00 PM** -

**TUESDAY, APR 7 – TUESDAY WITHIN THE OCTAVE OF EASTER**

**9:00 AM** +Birthday Blessings for Angela Satkowski

**WEDNESDAY, APR 8 – WEDNESDAY WITHIN THE OCTAVE OF EASTER**

**6:00 PM** +Alfonzo Coppola

**THURSDAY, APR 9 – THURSDAY WITHIN THE OCTAVE OF EASTER**

**9:00 AM** +Miroslaw Bujak, req. by Ellen Delello

**FRIDAY, APR 10 – FRIDAY WITHIN THE OCTAVE OF EASTER**

**6:00 PM** +Jamie Sims

**SATURDAY, APR 11 – SATURDAY WITHIN THE OCTAVE OF EASTER**

**9:00 AM** 1. +Edward Flormann, req. by Darlene & Michael McNamara  
2. +Michelle Sweeney, 1-year anniversary of her passing

**5:00 PM** 1. +Kathleen Vender Horst  
2. Deceased members of the Lukachyk families, req. by Diane Wirth

**SUNDAY, APR 12 – DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY**

**8:00 AM** -

**10:00 AM** Intentions of Adam & Grazyna Kus

**12:00 PM** 1. +Annette Munier, req. by Donna Petronchak  
2. Intentions of Kevin & Theresa McNamara

**3:00 PM** + Zbigniew Janosik

### This Week:

The Resurrection of the Lord  
**1st Reading:** Acts 10:34a, 37-43  
**2nd Reading:** Colossians 3:1-4  
**Gospel:** John 20:1-9

Easter begins in quiet darkness. Mary Magdalene goes to the tomb early in the morning. She is grieving, holding onto what she has lost. Instead of closure, she finds something unsettling: the stone is rolled away. The tomb is empty. Peter and the beloved disciple run to the tomb. They see the burial cloths, the absence, but they don't yet fully understand. The Gospel tells us: "He saw and believed," even though they had not yet grasped the Scriptures that Jesus must rise from the dead.

This is the heart of Easter: faith often begins before full understanding. We, too, live in that space. There are moments when God seems hidden, when life feels like a "tomb," empty, uncertain, unresolved. Easter doesn't erase those moments. Instead, it transforms them. The empty tomb is not just proof that Jesus is gone, it is the first sign that death does not have the final word. Easter invites us to look again at what seems empty or lost in our lives and to ask: Could God be doing something new here?

Because the truth of this day is not just that Jesus rose long ago, it is that He is alive now, still rolling away stones, still bringing light into darkness, still calling us to believe even before we fully understand.



#### A Time to Serve in The Military

Daniel Luccarelli, Joseph Connors, Alex Richnavsky, Matthew Lattanzi, Christopher Hettema, Jeffrey Cox, Joshua Paicer, Ckyson Santos, Johnathan Greenwald, Joseph Canova, Carlos Hernandez III, Jude Pope, Noah Anderson, Dan Goodsir, Briany Checo, Steven Bakalian, Sebastian LeRedd, Nikolus Bakalian  
*If you have a family member in the military and would like them to be prayed for please call the parish office with the name of the person.*

#### A Time to Heal

Bill Hoffman, Natalie Hummel, Donald Conlon, Mary Henaghen, Pat Burd, Peg Lupo, Blanca Medina, Bobby Toomes, Antoniette Moralishvili, Dave Youngren, Barbara Richnavsky, Joanne Ospina, Raffaele Puoti, Brian Wunder, Cailen Bayley Hochradel, Sean Altimore, Anna Noskova, Gina Lupo, Kathryn Lenahan, Jack Abner, Joanne Klosz, Patricia Oslacky, Mary Lou Adragna, Pete Gerst, Miguel Torres, Helen Shawah, Regina Kelly, Sofia Ayers, Marilyn Bryan, Vincent Bavaro, Michael Simonelli, Joseph Carabillo, Paul Kiel, Joan Kozlowski

#### A Time to Return to God

Joyce Hayes, Eugeniusz Seredyniecki, Kenneth Ost, Bill Bryan, Robert Caldo, Rita D'Agostino, those buried in our cemetery

### Next Week:

Sunday of Divine Mercy  
**1st Reading:** Acts 2:42-47  
**2nd Reading:** 1 Peter 1:3-9  
**Gospel:** John 20:19-31

**Scripture Focus:** Thomas believes because he sees Jesus.

**Life Focus:** We are among those who are "blessed" because we believe without having seen.

## The Little Catholic's Corner



Early in the morning, Mary Magdalene went to visit Jesus' tomb. She loved Jesus very much, and she was feeling sad. But when she got there, she saw something surprising: the big stone had been rolled away, and the tomb was empty! Mary ran to tell Peter and another disciple. They hurried as fast as they could to the tomb to see for themselves. When they looked inside, they saw the cloths Jesus had been wrapped in, but Jesus wasn't there. Something amazing had happened, even if they didn't fully understand it yet.

Jesus had risen from the dead, He was alive! At first, it was confusing and a little scary. But soon, their sadness would turn into great joy. Jesus' Resurrection shows us that God is stronger than sadness, stronger than fear, and even stronger than death. Sometimes, we might feel confused, sad, or unsure—just like the disciples. But Easter reminds us that God is always at work, bringing hope and new life, even when we don't see it right away.



# COLLECTION NUMBERS



## Collections for the week of March 22:

**In-Pew & Mail-In:** \$2,750.00

**Online Giving:** \$1,728.00

**Total:** \$4,778.00

**IMPORTANT INFORMATION:** Our second collection the first Sunday of the month is for parish needs—until further notice, please make a note on your check that your donation is for Heat and Snow Removal. Online donations in the Parish Upkeep Fund will also be used for Heat and Snow Removal. God Bless you for your continued support.



**Knights of Columbus**

**MEETINGS AT 8PM  
SECOND THURSDAY  
OF THE MONTH  
KOCH HALL**

**SOCIAL MEETING  
FOURTH THURSDAY  
OF THE MONTH**

Men 18 and up, do you want to help the church, the community and each other? Even a couple of hours a year is helpful. Become a Knight today! Scan this code and complete the membership form. Be sure to specify Preferred Local Council as 6343



[www.kofc.org/joinus](http://www.kofc.org/joinus)

# FAITH SHARING GROUPS

## THE DISCIPLES OF CHRIST

The Disciples of Christ ministry exists to proclaim the Gospel of Jesus Christ in word and deed, and to equip lay Catholics for the work of evangelization through fellowship, training, and outreach. Meetings take place every Saturday at 10:30 AM in Room 4 of the Parish Center All are welcome

## LECTIONARY BIBLE STUDY

Our Easter Bible Study Sessions will survey the First Letter of St. Peter, one of the seven Catholic epistles written to early Christians in Asia Minor. We will explore how this letter speaks to communities whose newfound faith in the crucified and risen Jesus made them strangers among their own. **Sessions begin on Tuesday, April 14 /Friday, April 17. We meet Tuesdays at 7:00 p.m. and Fridays at 10:00 a.m. in Room 4 of the Parish Center.**

# CEMETERY PAVING REPAIR FUND

**50.9%**  
**\$15,255 RAISED OF \$30,000 GOAL**

**SCAN HERE TO  
CONTRIBUTE  
ONLINE**



# ST. JOSEPH CARES FOOD PANTRY

**NEXT FOOD DISTRIBUTION DATES:**

**APRIL 18, 2026 & MAY 9, 2026 | 10:00 AM-12:00 PM**

## **CALL OUR BEST WISHES FOR A BLESSED AND JOYFUL EASTER!**

– From the entire crew at St. Joseph Cares Food Pantry

**THANK YOU FOR YOUR UNFAILING KINDNESS! WE ARE OVERWHELMED BY YOUR GENEROSITY!**

## **DONATIONS OF THE FOLLOWING ITEMS ARE APPRECIATED:**

- ITEM OF THE WEEK: COFFEE AND TEA
- Dry Cereal & Instant Oatmeal
- Chunky Soups & Chilli
- Canned Tuna & Chicken
- Pasta & Pasta Sauce
- Ketchup, Mayo, & Mustard

## **DONATIONS CAN BE BROUGHT TO:**

**The Parish Office** during Business Hours  
**The Food Drop Off Box** Outside the Pantry Door  
**The Food Pantry** between 10AM and 12 NOON on Scheduled Saturdays.



## *Easter 2026 – A Message from the Pastor*

**Dear Parishioners,**

On this most holy day of Easter, I wish each and every one of you a blessed and joyful celebration of the Resurrection of our Lord.

Today, we proclaim with faith and hope that Christ is Risen! In the empty tomb, we encounter the greatest truth of our lives that love is stronger than death, that mercy triumphs over sin, and that God never abandons His people. May this truth fill your hearts with peace, renew your faith, and give you strength in every moment of your life.

From the depths of my heart, I thank you for your presence in our parish, for your prayers, your sacrifices, and especially for your beautiful witness of faith. Each time you come to the Eucharist and live according to the Gospel, you proclaim to the world that Christ is truly alive.

I also wish to express my sincere gratitude to all who have supported the restoration and renewal of our church, especially the sacred paintings that uplift our hearts to God. Your generosity and dedication are a visible sign of love for Christ and His Church, and a lasting gift for future generations.

May the Risen Lord bless you and your families abundantly, fill your homes with His peace, and keep you always close to His Sacred Heart.

A blessed and happy Easter to you all!

Yours in Christ,

*Rev. Jakub Grzybowski*

**Rev. Jakub Grzybowski**  
*Pastor*



## PAINTING RESTORATION PROJECT



We are grateful to share that the restoration of the paintings near our altar is now underway. This project is not only an investment in the physical beauty of our church, but also in the spiritual life of our parish. We invite you to support this special effort through your generosity. If you choose to give, donations can be made:

- By check or cash with a notation of "Renovation - Restricted Collection, or painting" on your check or envelope
- By debit or credit card using the card reader available at the back of the church
- Or online using the QR code

We are deeply grateful for your continued faith, support, and dedication!



## APRIL 12 DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY

We invite all to join us on April 12 to honor the Feast of Divine Mercy Sunday, a celebration of the infinite mercy of Jesus as revealed to St. Faustina Kowalska.

- **Adoration & Divine Mercy Devotion:**  
1:00 PM – 3:00 PM, with Benediction
- **Solemn Mass & Homily:**  
3:00 PM, celebrated by Fr. Frederic Walter

**Confession will be available starting at 2:00 PM**

Through prayer, adoration, and the Eucharist, come and receive the healing and forgiveness promised by Divine Mercy, and open your heart to Christ's compassionate love.



## 50/50 RAFFLE TICKET UPDATE



**April Raffle Tickets** are now on sale after all Sunday masses and in the office; Tickets are **\$20, \$30 & \$50** each. Winners will be announced during the April 26 Hospitality Hour in the Parish Center. Good Luck and thank you for supporting our Parish!

## ST. JOSEPH'S CLOTHING DRIVE



**WHAT:** Used Clothing Collection Fundraiser to benefit our Parish

**WHEN:** Saturday, May 16th, 9am - 3pm

**WHERE:** Saint Joseph Parish Parking Lot

### Collecting:

- Wearable clothing of all types and sizes;
- Shoes (please place in a separate bag from clothing);
- Belts, hats, scarves, and handbags;
- Linens: curtains, tablecloths, sheets, quilts, blankets, comforters, towels, decorative pillows;
- Stuffed animals and soft toys.
- Please place items in plastic bags only and tie securely.

"Drive and Drop" means that volunteers will be on hand to unload donations from your car; Donation Valuation Guides will be made available to you; Our 3rd-party partner specializes in collecting and re-selling second-hand clothing globally, they prioritize quality & sustainability. The clothing items we collect are not shredded.

FAITH OF OUR FATHERS:  
**EASTER HOMILY BY  
BISHOP MELITO OF SARDIS**



**This week's Faith of Our Fathers** features an excerpt from a Paschal homily of the 2nd-century Bishop Melito of Sardis (ca. 100-180 AD). In this passage, Melito compares and contrasts the Jewish Passover with the Paschal Mystery of Christ's Death and Resurrection, showing that, through Christ's Passover which we celebrate on Easter, "the type has passed away; the reality has come."

**From an Easter homily by Melito of Sardis, bishop**

*(Cap. 2-7, 100-103: SC 123, 60-64, 120-122)*

*The Easter praise of Christ*

We should understand, beloved, that the paschal mystery is at once old and new, transitory and eternal, corruptible and incorruptible, mortal and immortal. In terms of the Law it is old, in terms of the Word it is new. In its figure it is passing, in its grace it is eternal. It is corruptible in the sacrifice of the lamb, incorruptible in the eternal life of the Lord. It is mortal in his burial in the earth, immortal in his resurrection from the dead.

The Law indeed is old, but the Word is new. The type is transitory, but grace is eternal. The lamb was corruptible, but the Lord is incorruptible. He was slain as a lamb; he rose again as God. *He was led like a sheep to the slaughter*, yet he was not a sheep. He was silent as a lamb, yet he was not a lamb. The type has passed away; the reality has come. The lamb gives place to God, the sheep gives place to a man, and the man is Christ, who fills the whole of creation. The sacrifice of the lamb, the celebration of the Passover, and the prescriptions of the Law have been fulfilled in Jesus Christ. Under the old Law, and still more under the new dispensation, everything pointed toward him.

Both the Law and the Word came forth from Zion and Jerusalem, but now the Law has given place to the Word, the old to the new. The commandment has become grace, the type a reality. The lamb has become a Son, the sheep a man, and man, God.

The Lord, though he was God, became man. He suffered for the sake of those who suffer, he was bound for those in bonds, condemned for the guilty, buried for those who lie in the grave; but he rose from the dead, and cried aloud: *Who will contend with me? Let him confront me.* I have freed the condemned, brought the dead back to life, raised men from their graves. Who has anything to say against me? I, he said, am the Christ; I have destroyed death, triumphed over the enemy, trampled hell underfoot, bound the strong one, and taken men up to the heights of heaven: I am the Christ.

Come, then, all you nations of men, receive forgiveness for the sins that defile you. I am your forgiveness. I am the Passover that brings salvation. I am the lamb who was immolated for you. I am your ransom, your life, your resurrection, your light, I am your salvation and your king. I will bring you to the heights of heaven. With my own right hand I will raise you up, and I will show you the eternal Father.

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