



# Church of the SACRED HEART

*A Faith Community in the Roman Catholic Tradition Since 1905*

## ■ PARISH MISSION STATEMENT ■

The Roman Catholic Church of the Sacred Heart, South Plainfield, NJ was established in 1905. We are a diverse community striving to foster spiritual growth and Catholic identity through liturgy, sacraments, service, education and our shared faith in God. We are committed to being an instrument of love, healing and hope by ministering to the needs of our parishioners & the larger community, while celebrating the Christ present in each of us.

*We welcome all to join us for worship and invite you to become an active member of our parish family.*

*Sacred Heart Church is open every day as a quiet refuge for prayer and reflection from 6:30AM until 4:30PM.*

## ■ MASS SCHEDULE ■

Weekend: 5:00PM – Saturday Vigil; Sunday – 9:00AM, 11:30AM  
Daily: 9:00AM – Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday, Saturday  
7:00PM – Monday  
Holy Day: 6:30AM, 9:00AM, 7:00PM

## ■ EUCHARISTIC ADORATION ■

Monday: 6:00-7:00 PM

## ■ MIRACULOUS MEDAL NOVENA ■

Monday: 6:45PM with Benediction and Saturday: following 9:00AM Mass

## ■ BAPTISM ■

The sacrament is celebrated on the second and fourth Sundays of every month at 1:00PM with the exception of the Season of Lent.

## ■ RECONCILIATION ■

Saturday: 10:00 - 11:30AM and at other times by appointment.

## ■ MARRIAGE ■

Marriage is a major step in anyone's life. If you are planning your marriage, whether in a church wedding or at an outside venue, please contact us so we can help you prepare and lay the groundwork for a successful, lifelong commitment. For those planning to be married in a church wedding, the Policy of Marriage Preparation set forth by the bishops of New Jersey recommends that couples should begin the process one year in advance of the planned date of marriage. To coordinate scheduling and allow time for marriage preparation, arrangements should be made with the church before any other plans are set. All details and information will be gladly provided upon calling the parish office.

## PARISH STAFF

908-756-0633

PASTOR  
REV. EDMUND LUCIANO III,  
KCHS, KOGCO

PAROCHIAL VICAR x126  
REV. PERVAIZ INDRIAS

DEACON  
D. GREGORY CARUSO

DIRECTOR SACRED MUSIC x139  
DANIEL MAHONEY

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION x143  
LOUISE TIMKO, PhD

PARISH FINANCES x114

OFFICE ADMINISTRATOR x110  
LISA THOMPSON

FACILITIES MANAGER x140  
J. MICHAEL MAZZARESE

INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY x146  
PHILIP EMMA

STAFF ASSISTANT x118  
SR. NADINE BOYLE, RSM

SACRISTAN  
MARIE DOLINSKI

HOLY REDEEMER CEMETERY  
LYNDA YELENOVSKY

908-822-5892

## PARISH CENTER & MAILING ADDRESS

**200 RANDOLPH AVENUE, SOUTH PLAINFIELD, NJ 07080**

**PHONE: 908-756-0633 FAX: 908-757-5655**

**ONLINE: <http://www.churchofthesacredheart.net>**

*The Parish Center is open Monday through Thursday from 8:00AM - 4:00PM, Friday from 8:00AM - 2:00PM. Please schedule other times by appointment.*

**SACRED HEART CHURCH IS LOCATED AT 149 SOUTH PLAINFIELD AVENUE**

# ☩ MASSES

SATURDAY, MAY 11

5:00 PM ALL MOTHERS LIVING AND DECEASED

SUNDAY, MAY 12

THE ASCENSION OF THE LORD

*Mother's Day*

9:00AM ALL MOTHERS LIVING AND DECEASED

11:30AM ALL MOTHERS LIVING AND DECEASED

MONDAY, MAY 13

OUR LADY OF FATIMA

6:00 PM Eucharistic Adoration and Rosary

6:30 PM Benediction

7:00 PM NOVENA FOR ALL MOTHERS LIVING AND DECEASED

TUESDAY, MAY 14

ST. MATTHIAS, Apostle

9:00 AM NOVENA FOR ALL MOTHERS LIVING AND DECEASED

WEDNESDAY, MAY 15

ST. ISIDORE

9:00 AM NOVENA FOR ALL MOTHERS LIVING AND DECEASED

THURSDAY, MAY 16

9:00 AM NOVENA FOR ALL MOTHERS LIVING AND DECEASED

FRIDAY, MAY 17

9:00 AM NOVENA FOR ALL MOTHERS LIVING AND DECEASED

5:00 PM Confirmation

SATURDAY, MAY 18

ST. JOHN I, Pope & Martyr

9:00 AM NOVENA FOR ALL MOTHERS LIVING AND DECEASED

5:00 PM PEOPLE OF THE PARISH

PENTECOST SUNDAY, MAY 19

*Wear RED for Pentecost*

9:00 AM NOVENA FOR ALL MOTHERS LIVING AND DECEASED

11:30 AM CHARLES & ANTOINETTE PERRETTI,  
Req. by Daughter




## ALTAR FLOWERS

this weekend are in loving memory of

LANEY GRACE STOECKEL

Requested by Grandma





**WEEKLY SCRIPTURE PASSAGE**  
May 12 – May 19, 2024

You can find the complete **DAILY**  
**SCRIPTURE READINGS** at <http://www.usccb.org/nab/>.

## WE OFFER OUR PRAYER

FOR THOSE WHO ARE SICK, especially: Daniel Hedden, Robert Larsen Jr., Thomas Buttery, Celeste Ginder, Barbara Nuber, Nick Cocco, John Lobosco, Michelina Panzarella, Magdalena Zawadzki, Walter Williams, Ana Serro, Jeffrey Vogel, Joseph Lacasale, Jimmy Caldroney, Isabel Tomassini, Alexandra Hurtado, Ileana Rodriguez, Marie Grasso, Antonia Mocharski, Barry Michalak, Roger Sheldon, Rosalia Castrogiovanni, Gary Kaczka, Peter Callan, Gloria Lissette Haskens, Alfonsina Brizuela Chamorro, Christine Cancela, Soonja Lee, Josephine Sgalardi, Jennifer Munoz, Arvind Patel, Thomas Zullinger, Mary Melando, Brendan Keogh, Barbara Kaplan, Gabriela VanHeest, Ish Bhatia, MaryEllen Heim-Harris, Kenneth Faulkner-Alexander, Charles Huber, Donna Przybylski, Loann Dmytruk, Leona Condit, Pat DeSantis, Brandon Ozbalik, Rafael Camacho, Peter Donnelly, Ann Marie Markus, Joan Williams, Angela Zipf.

FOR THOSE IN HOSPITALS & NURSING HOMES, especially: William McDonough, David Quiroga, Winifred Broadley.

FOR THOSE WHO HAVE DIED, especially: Donald Diegnan and the Faithful Departed of Sacred Heart Parish & their families who mourn their loss.

*Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon them.  
May their souls and all of the souls of the faithful departed, rest in peace. Amen.*

## VIRGIN MARY CANDLE

burns for healing prayers for  
JOSEPHINE TURIANO  
Requested by Daughter

## THE SANCTUARY CANDLE

burns in memory of  
LORETTA LETOSTAK  
Requested by Daughters Denise & Teresa



## SACRED HEART CANDLE

burns in memory of  
ROBERT JONES  
Requested by Wife & Family

ALTAR SERVER SCHEDULE May 18-19

5:00PM - G. Welch, M. Pahopin

9:00AM - A. Flannery, E. DiGiacomo

11:30AM - J. Baluyot, J. Baluyot, B. Rinaldi



We welcome everyone, especially those who are visiting and may be new to Sacred Heart Parish.

## GOD'S PLAN FOR GIVING

*We are a tithing parish & give thanks for God's gifts.*

**TITHING OR DONATION: CHURCH SUPPORT**  
Whether you are tithing or donating, however you choose to monetarily support the Church, we need your contributions. Thank you for your financial assistance.

Week Ending May 5, 2024

thank  
you

	2024	2023
<b>Sunday Envelopes:</b>	<b>\$ 11,474</b>	<b>\$ 9,235</b>
<b>Online Giving:</b>	<b>\$ 4,497</b>	<b>\$ 5,194</b>
<b>Totals:</b>	<b>\$ 15,971</b>	<b>\$ 14,429</b>

Thank you for your charitable and generous support in the various diocesan collections and mission appeals.

**SACRED HEART CHURCH OFFERS ONLINE GIVING** for parishioners who prefer to donate through automatic draft. Online Giving is a secure and personalized way to give to the parish. In the convenience of your home you choose how much to give, how often to give, and what form of payment you wish to use. Online Giving can stand on its own as a means of donation or can be used in conjunction with your offering envelopes. Sign up at our parish website: [www.churchofthesacredheart.net](http://www.churchofthesacredheart.net) Have your weekly offering automatically debited from your checking account or credit card. If you have reward credit, you can be earning points or cash back.

### DO YOU USE THE PARISH WEBSITE?

See <http://www.ChurchoftheSacredHeart.net>

**VISIT THE DIOCESAN WEBSITE AT**  
[www.diometuchen.org](http://www.diometuchen.org)

► And don't forget to "like" us on FACEBOOK

The Church of the Sacred Heart, and to "follow" us  
on INSTAGRAM



### 2024 BISHOP'S ANNUAL APPEAL

*Stay With us, Lord: Renew our  
Hearts and Send us on Mission*

If you missed it, you can still see the Bishop's Annual Appeal video by going online to <https://diometuchen.org/BAA>. Watch it and see all the good work being done in your name, thanks to your support of the Bishop's Annual Appeal. If you haven't already done so, please prayerfully consider a gift today!



**GOAL: \$106,000 PLEDGED: \$116,745 DONORS: 306**

**STAY CONNECTED** — Our daily 9AM Masses and 5PM Saturday Vigil & 9AM Sunday Masses are live-streamed and posted on our parish website AND at our YouTube channel <https://www.youtube.com/c/ChurchoftheSacredHeartofSouthPlainfieldNJ/>



Live stream of our daily and weekend Masses comes at a cost. If you are enjoying Mass via live-stream, you can still support our parish by giving online or by mailing your weekly contribution envelope to the parish center. We thank you for your generosity and continued support.

**NEXT WEEKEND** - We are invited to support the Catholic Communications Campaign collection. This campaign connects people with Christ in the United States and in developing countries around the world through the Internet, television, radio & print media. Full 50% of funds collected remain here in the Metuchen Diocese to fund local communications efforts. Your support helps spread the Gospel message! Envelopes are available at the entrances of the church.



### THE CHURCH OF THE SACRED HEART WELCOMES ALL NEWCOMERS

to the parish. Please contact our parish secretary, Lisa at the Parish Office at 908-756-0633 x110 for registration information. ► If you are moving, please notify Lisa at the Parish Office so we can keep our parishioner records current. *Thank you.*

**PARISH MEMBERSHIP:** Any new family who has moved into the parish area and adult children 21 years of age and older, are invited to register as a parishioner. The definition of an active parishioner is: *One registered, attending Mass weekly and contributing to the support to the church.* There is a (3) month minimum registration requirement before registering for a baptism or requesting letters of eligibility/sponsorship. Registration forms can be found on the parish website: [www.churchofthesacredheart.net](http://www.churchofthesacredheart.net).

If you are moving, have changed your phone number or address, please call Lisa 908-756-0633 x110 or email us at: [lthompson@churchofthesacredheart.net](mailto:lthompson@churchofthesacredheart.net) so we can update your records. Thank you!

**SPONSOR LETTERS** - Canon (Church) Law states that a Godparent for Baptism and a Sponsor for Confirmation **be an active, fully-initiated Catholic** (Confirmed). An **active Catholic** is a parishioner who is registered, attends Mass weekly, contributes to the support of the Church, publicly leads a genuine Christian lifestyle and is in a valid Catholic marriage (**an individual married civilly by a judge or mayor, or divorced and remarried without an annulment is not eligible to act as a sponsor**). Please note that we can only write *Letters of Eligibility* for parishioners who meet these criteria.

**BAPTISM/SPONSORSHIP CLASS** - Parents and godparents are required to attend one session before their child's Baptism date can be confirmed. Sessions are held on the **FIRST Tuesday of every month at 7:00PM**. *Registration is required.* Please contact Sr. Nadine 908-756-0633 x118 to register for the class or with any questions.

## WE PRAY FOR ALL SERVING IN THE MILITARY

*Especially for our parishioners*



Pvt. Alterreek Booker - US Army/KY  
SpC. Bryan Gutschall - US Army/Afghanistan  
LCdr. Edward Quaranta/ US Reserves  
Col. Dirk H. Smith/US Army, Florida  
Pfc. Jackson Smith/US Army, Georgia



Pvt. Edward C. Forsthoffer/US Army  
CPO Michael Brand/US Navy, USS Harry S. Truman  
Sgt. Damian Henderson/NJ National Guard/US  
Cpl. Zachary-James Henderson/NJ National Guard



Sn. Shane Zullinger/US Navy  
LCpl. Miles J. Farrell/US Marine Corp/Maryland  
LCpl. Anthony Mazzaferro/US Marines/Georgia



Ht3 Rachel Ann Fallet/US Navy/Virginia  
Capt. Charles J. Butrico JAG/ US Marines/Okinawa  
Sgt. James Minogue/US Army National Guard  
PFC. Francis Flannery/US Marines/California

### May we work for Justice as we pray for Peace.

We remember our loved ones serving in the military.  
We are grateful for their sacrifice and commitment.  
We pray for their safety and well being and that  
they may return home to us soon.



## Respect for Life

Thank you moms, for choosing life!  
God bless you.

### 2 WEBSITES - ONE LIFE SAVING MISSION

Life Choices Resource Center has launched two websites:  
[www.ChoicesOptionsforWomen.com](http://www.ChoicesOptionsforWomen.com) & [www.LifeChoicesRC.com](http://www.LifeChoicesRC.com)

**BABIES - Life Choices Resource Center** - We promote and defend the sanctity of all human life, born and unborn. We are a pro-life pregnancy resource center that serves woman facing unplanned pregnancies. Women who Choose Life for their baby are provided resources, service and material support they need. With your help and support of material needs listed on the Baby Box (parking lot entrance) you will be helping us to provide mothers in need. God bless you for your support in saving our precious little ones.

### SACRED HEART EUCHARISTIC ADORATION

Join us for our weekly Holy Hour of Adoration before the Blessed Sacrament followed by Mass at 7:00PM. Every Monday from 6:00-7:00PM we begin with the Rosary followed with quiet time before the Lord in the Eucharist. Pray together in person, virtually as part of the live-stream or at any time on the *parish YouTube* Church of the Sacred Heart of South Plainfield, NJ.



### FR. PERVAIZ'S SCRIPTURE SHARING

Do you sometimes wonder what the readings at Mass are all about? Come to Fr. Pervaiz's weekly Scripture Sharing to discuss the Sunday Mass Scripture readings. Join us **via Zoom** Wednesdays at 4:00PM. ID: 456 888 3051 Passcode: 3E8HN

## HAIL MARY,

*full of grace, the Lord is with you. Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb, Jesus.*

*Holy Mary, Mother of God, pray for us sinners, now and at the hour of our death.*  
AMEN.



*Loving God & Father, bless these women whom we call Mother. As you once called Mary of Nazareth to be the mother of your son Jesus Christ, send too the Holy Spirit upon our mothers to guard and guide them, to support and inspire them. Rekindle in them the fire of your love each and every day. We thank you for them, and thank them for the gifts of life and faith which they have shared with us.*

*God bless you Mom!*



The Sacred Heart Rosary Altar Society  
invites you to pray the Rosary with them  
before the Monday evening Mass each week.

## SACRED HEART SOCIAL CONCERNS MINISTRY

### MISSION STATEMENT

In following with the Corporal Works of Mercy: **Feed the hungry, Give drink to the thirsty, Clothe the naked, Shelter the homeless, Visit the sick, Visit the imprisoned, Bury the dead,** Sacred Heart Social Concerns is a faith-based ministry serving the poor and those in need due to unforeseen circumstances, i.e., loss of employment, shelter, sickness, etc., with distribution of food and/or funds for utilities or housing. In keeping with the mission of Sacred Heart Parish, we are committed to being an instrument of healing and hope by ministering to those in need and celebrating Christ present in each of us.

### ORGANIZATION

Membership in Sacred Heart Social Concerns consists of volunteers from the parishioners of Sacred Heart Church. Officers are President, Treasurer and Secretary. Meetings are held quarterly or as needed.

Monetary donations from the poor boxes, located at all Church doors, are deposited in the Social Concerns bank account. The money is used for those who qualify for financial help, and for purchasing needed food for the pantry.

All requests for food and financial assistance must be directed to extension 112 (the Social Concerns extension) on the Parish Center phone line 908-756-0633. Messages are reviewed every Monday, Wednesday, and Friday (except Holidays) between 9:00Am and 11:00AM by a member of Social Concerns.

Emergency food requests are provided once without question to anyone in need. If the request for food is for more than one time, the client will receive a phone call to set up an appointment at which time they will be asked to complete a personal and financial information form. The client will be interviewed by a two-member interview team to determine if the person or family can become a regular food client. To become a regular food client, a person (or family) should be a parishioner or a resident of South Plainfield. However, residents of surrounding communities may also be considered for assistance.

# RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Louise Timko, Director  
908-756-0633 x143



For more information please visit our web page

[www.churchofthesacredheart.net](http://www.churchofthesacredheart.net)

or send us an email:

[religiouseducation@churchofthesacredheart.net](mailto:religiouseducation@churchofthesacredheart.net)

Everyone hears the Sunday Scripture readings proclaimed, but do we take time to think about their meaning in our lives?

## QUESTION OF THE WEEK — May 12

The question of the week is: Have you ever resented someone because they clung to a religious truth you didn't hold? How did you understand this difference between the two of you?

Have you found?

Over 4,000 titles - now available on almost any device!



**WATCH:** Religion or Relationship? Why do I need religion if I have a relationship with Jesus? (8 min.)  
[FORMED.ORG](http://FORMED.ORG)

## THE RITE OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION OF ADULTS

Do you or someone you know need to complete the Sacraments of Initiation: Baptism, Eucharist and/or Confirmation? Our program includes Sunday Mass at 9:00AM, and a class session afterward. Please contact Louise Timko: [ltimko@churchofthesacredheart.net](mailto:ltimko@churchofthesacredheart.net) or 908-756-0633 x143.



## Holy Savior Academy

THE MIDDLEBROOK DEANERY CATHOLIC SCHOOL

Where academic excellence & Christ's presence come together

LISA DELL'AQUILA, PRINCIPAL

## Holy Savior Academy

### PreK 3 - 8th Grade

- Prek 3 & 4 - 3 or 5 day full day programs
- Before Care beginning at 7:00am
- Aftercare program available daily until 6:00pm

**SCHEDULED TOURS 908-822-5890 option 3**  
[www.holysavioracademy.com](http://www.holysavioracademy.com)

149 South Plainfield Ave · South Plainfield, NJ 07080  
Holy Savior Academy is fully accredited by AdvancEd.  
We welcome students of all faiths and cultures.

# HOLY REDEEMER CEMETERY



Serving the funeral and burial needs of our Catholic Community with respect & dignity since 1919.

OWNED & OPERATED BY THE CHURCH OF THE SACRED HEART

1734 CLINTON AVENUE, SOUTH PLAINFIELD, NJ 07080  
908-822-5892

Website: [www.holyredeemercemetery.net](http://www.holyredeemercemetery.net)  
Email: [shcemetery@comcast.net](mailto:shcemetery@comcast.net)

Graves, Mausoleum Crypts & Cremation Niches  
Inquire about brass military insignia and photoceramic features.

LYNDA YELENOVSKY, BUSINESS ADMINISTRATOR

### CEMETERY HOURS

8:00AM - 7:00PM (APRIL 15 - SEPT 15)  
8:00AM - 4:30PM (SEPT 16 - APRIL 14)

### POSITIONS AVAILABLE

#### CEMETERY CARETAKERS

Holy Redeemer Cemetery & Mausoleum, South Plainfield, NJ  
[www.holyredeemercemetery.net](http://www.holyredeemercemetery.net)

1 Full-time & 1 Part-time M-F including occasional Saturdays, flexible schedule. Experience helpful but not required. Candidate needs to be compassionate and sensitive to the needs of grieving families and visitors to the cemetery. Candidate must have a valid NJ driver's license. Must be able to lift a minimum of 50 lbs. Work includes digging, framing monument foundations, assist vault company and grave diggers with in-ground burials, operate a small loader-backhoe and hydraulic lift for mausoleum burials, daily and seasonal maintenance tasks and grounds keeping. If interested, contact Lynda Yelenovsky, Business Administrator, at 908-822-5892, or email resume to [shcemetery@comcast.net](mailto:shcemetery@comcast.net)

### GATHER & GROW

Parenting a child with a disability presents its own unique challenges. Our parenting support group, called Gather & Grow, provides parents with a space and time to share their feelings and experiences with others who face the similar circumstances of raising a child with disabilities. Our next meeting is **Wednesday, May 22, from 6:30-7:30PM** in the Annex. Please join us.

**IN GOD'S IMAGE: CATHOLIC FAITH SHARING FOR LGBTQ PERSONS & THEIR FAMILIES** - *In God's Image*, the Lesbian, Gay, Transgender Faith Sharing Group at Sacred Heart Church, meets the 2nd Wednesday of every month at 7PM in the Parish Annex (behind the school). **Gatherings are currently hybrid with Zoom.** For info call Fr. John Alvarado at 732-790-3136, OR email: [sacredheartigi@gmail.com](mailto:sacredheartigi@gmail.com). Click the **IGI** icon on the parish website. View & share the online video presentation at [OwningOurFaith.com](http://OwningOurFaith.com).

# THIS IS OUR FAITH

## Discipleship

This Sunday we celebrate the Solemnity of the Ascension, when Jesus returned to His heavenly Father. The last thing He told His disciples to do was: "Go then, to all peoples everywhere and make them my disciples: baptize them in the name of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, and teach them to obey everything I have commanded you. And I will be with you always, to the end of the age" (Matthew 28:19-20).

What does it mean to be a disciple? This word comes from the Latin word "discipulus," meaning learner. Two thousand years ago, being a disciple meant much more than our word student does today. Being a disciple was a state of life, but not merely in the sense of following another's ideas. The disciple gave up his entire life to be with his teacher. Back in those days, since teachers taught sitting down, a disciple would literally sit at his teacher's feet during the day, eat what and when his teacher ate, and slept when his teacher told him to. And the word disciple included the practice that the learner himself didn't just benefit from the teacher, the disciple was to share what they learned, bringing others into the community gathered around the teacher.

When Jesus uses the word disciple and instructs his current disciples to go out and make other disciples, He's telling them to do much more than communicate some basic academic ideas and concepts, which others may or may not accept. He's instructing them to bring others into this unique lifestyle. He's directing them to recruit others.

At different times in His public ministry, we know that Jesus was surrounded by crowds of followers, curiosity seekers, and believers. But all these people would not accurately be described as disciples. Disciples were a smaller group, a closer-knit community around Jesus. There were more than twelve of them but there weren't thousands either back then. Disciples were devotees of Jesus and learned from Him on a daily basis. They weren't taking a course of study with Him. This wasn't an academic endeavor. They were in a relationship with Jesus and He with them.

We see this clearly in the Acts of the Apostles. The early converts to Christianity were excited, highly motivated and changed how they were living their lives. They were close to one another in a community because it's always easier to maintain a new lifestyle if surrounded by likeminded others. In the Acts of the Apostles, we are given a description of what it meant to live as a disciple of Jesus (Acts 2:42-47). The lives of the early Christians entailed acts of charity, communal living and daily prayer.

So a disciple isn't merely someone who believes in Jesus and accepts His teachings in a casual way. A disciple is someone whose life is fundamentally changed in attitude, action, and perception of what their lives are all about. One could say that a closer synonym for disciple is the word apprentice. Jesus' last instruction to the Apostles was that they should go everywhere and recruit apprentices.

Would you consider yourself an apprentice of Jesus Christ? How do you sit at the Lord's feet today? Our lives are not communal ones and the practicalities of everyday life, such as work, mean we are not meeting daily for prayer and meals. But this doesn't mean that discipleship is irrelevant or an impossibility. Now, as then, apprenticeship means more than a casual interest in Jesus. As Catholics we're not merely collecting knowledge about Jesus. We are called to become like our Master. Our goal is to become like Jesus, acting as He acted, looking at the world the way He looked at the world, and recruiting others to be His disciples too. This Ascension Day, are you ready for the challenge? —Louise Timko, Director of Religious Education & Faith Formation

## MOTHER'S DAY NOVENA

As we prepare to honor the caregiving women in our lives on Mother's Day, all mother's living and deceased will be remembered in our Mothers Day Novena May 12th-May 20th and in our Masses on Mother's Day. Novena envelopes are included in your most recently received packet of contribution envelopes. Envelopes will also be available at the entrances of the church for your specific intentions.

## Pray for our Teens preparing for their Confirmation, Friday, May 17.

They are the young sheep of the flock whom Jesus calls by name. May their witness and spirit renew the faith of all the flock, calling our adults to a deeper awareness of God's love and grace.

***Spirit of God, guide the hearts of these, Your disciples,  
with the fire of Your love!***



NAWAS INTERNATIONAL TRAVEL  
**PILGRIMAGE TO SPAIN**  
FEATURING FATIMA, LOURDES, & BARCELONA  
11 DAYS: SEPTEMBER 23 - OCTOBER 3, 2024

Visiting  
LISBON \* FATIMA \* SALAMANCA \* AVILA  
MADRID \* LOURDES \* MONTSERRAT \* BARCELONA

Hosted by  
**FR. EDMUND LUCIANO, III**

**\$3899 PER PERSON FROM NEWARK**  
(Air/land tour price is \$3379 plus \$520 government taxes/airline surcharges)

Clockwise from Left to Right: Fatima - Sagrada Família; Barcelona - Archabbey of Montserrat

QUALITY TOURS SINCE 1949



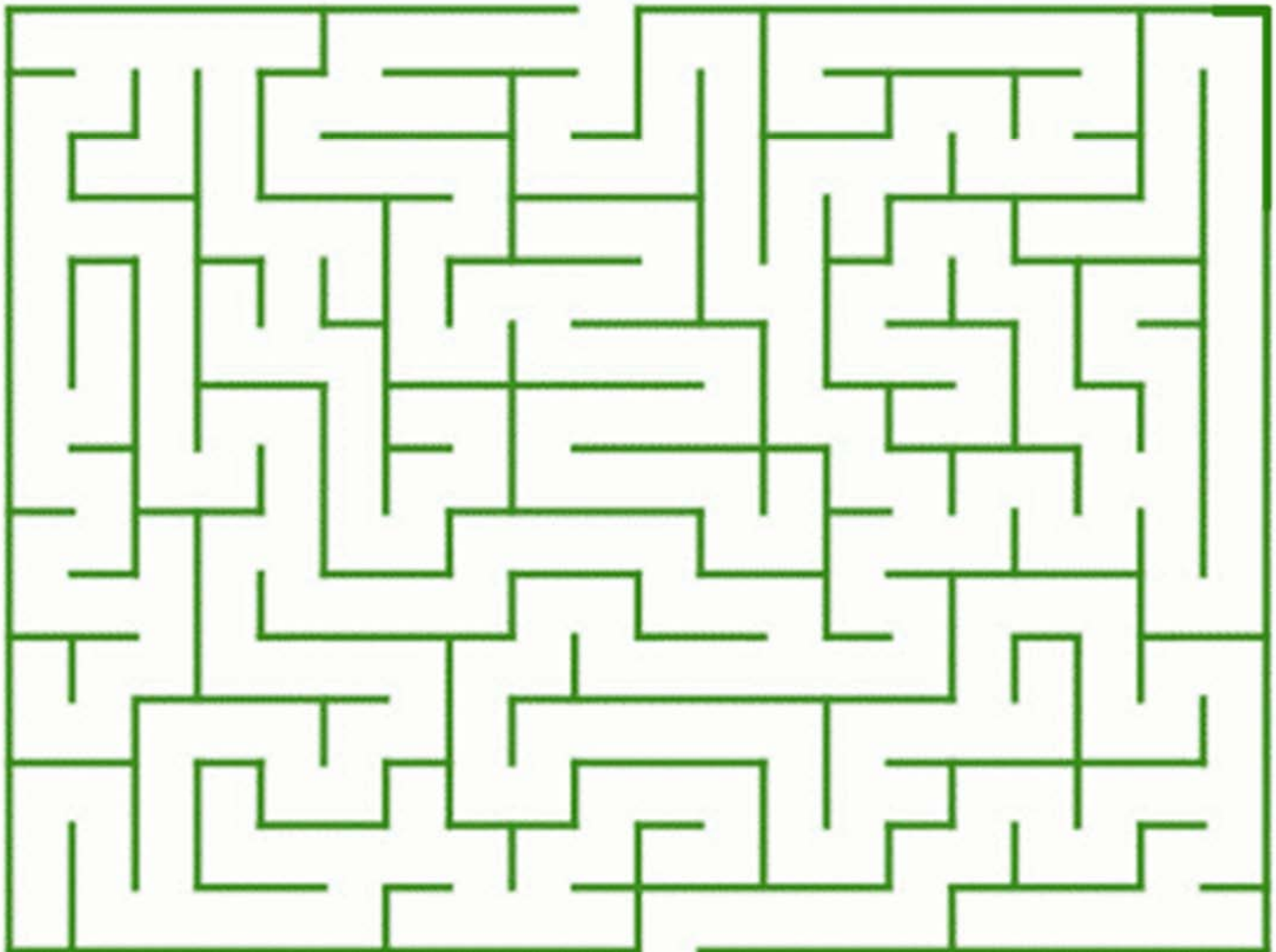
# The Ascension

After the Resurrection, Jesus stayed with His Apostles for forty days. He taught them many things. Then He went back to His Heavenly Father. Before He left them though, Jesus gave them one last instruction: to go throughout the world and tell everyone the Good News that He had established the Kingdom of Heaven.

Imagine you were one of the Apostles. Can you find your way through the maze to tell everyone about Jesus?



END



START

**EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION AT ST. FRANCIS OF ASSISI CATHEDRAL** - *"I am the living bread that came down from heaven; whoever eats this bread will live forever; and the bread that I will give is My flesh for the life of the world."* (John 6:51) In the midst of today's problems and concerns, remember that Jesus desires to heal and renew you. Can you hear Our Lord calling you, waiting for you? Consider spending one hour a week with Him in our Lady Chapel. Located in the Parish Center 45 Library Pl., Metuchen. (Side entrance near parking lot) Hours: 8:30AM – 5:00PM (Mon- Fri) Visit: <https://www.stfranciscathedral.org/eucharistic-adoration-1> for info or to schedule an hour, or call Marie (732) 906-6537.

**LECTIO DIVINA SCRIPTURE SHARING** — You are invited to share scripture with a small group of people on Monday mornings 11:00-11:30AM. We reflect and share on the gospel of that day. Make a commitment for just one Monday, and if you like it, come back the next Monday. Start your week with prayer, community, and hope. We look forward to sharing this time with you! Bring your bible with you! To join this meeting, visit: <https://diometuchen.org/onechurchtogether>.

**HISPANIC PILGRIMAGE** - The office of Hispanic Evangelization invites you to join the Hispanic Pilgrimage to the Basilica to Our Lady of Guadalupe from June 17 to June 22, 2024. Everyone is welcome to join us on a trip of spirituality, prayer and culture where we will visit Mexico City, Cholula, Puebla, Coyoacán and Xochimilco under the spiritual direction of Rev. Gustavo Rodríguez and Deacon Edgar Chaves.

**SAVE THE DATE** - May 25, 2024, Hispanic Pilgrimage to the Blue Army Shrine from 9:30am to 3:00pm. If you are interested, please contact us at [Lescobar@diometuchen.org](mailto:Lescobar@diometuchen.org)

**THE CHURCH THROUGH DIGITAL MEDIA** - The Diocese of Metuchen regularly uses its social media platforms to share news, events and engage with the faithful. If you haven't already, we invite you to follow us on social media @diocesemetuchen and tag us in your posts so we can help you share your good news.

**MAKING THE GOOD NEWS KNOWN** - The Office of Communications and Public Relations is committed to making the Good News known and telling the story of the Diocese of Metuchen, which includes telling the stories of our parishes, schools, ministries and the faithful. Do you have a positive, inspiring story to share about an individual within our local Church of Metuchen? Is your parish doing something that lights a fire in the heart of our part of the world? We want to hear from you! We invite you to share your news with us by emailing [communications@diometuchen.org](mailto:communications@diometuchen.org) and, as always, [news@catholicspirit.com](mailto:news@catholicspirit.com).

**FAITHFUL CITIZENSHIP** - As Catholics, we have an obligation to consider public policy issues in light of the Gospel and the moral and social teaching of the Church. As faithful citizens, we are called to respond in both prayer and action and consider how public policy can impact our communities, nation and world in the context of Catholic teaching. To provide the faithful of the Diocese of Metuchen with information and resources about issues affecting public policy and to highlight our lifelong responsibility as Catholics to form our own consciences in accord with the Church's teaching, the diocese has launched a new webpage: <https://diometuchen.org/issues-and-action>. There you can sign up to receive action alerts directly from the diocese, or sign up to receive alerts directly from the New Jersey Catholic Conference and the USCCB. Visitors to the page can also take action on current pending legislation and can see the latest news affecting public policy in our state, nation and world.

**SAINT PETER'S GIANNA CENTER** - The Center, located in New Brunswick, is dedicated to offering truly prolific women's health care, including infertility services, general gynecologic care, and more. All services are provided in accordance with the US Catholic Bishops Ethical and Religious Directives for Catholic Health Care Services. For more information, please visit <http://www.saintpetershcs.com/GiannaCenter/> or contact us at 732-565



**DIOCESAN OFFICE FOR PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES** has a Facebook page that provides daily updates with short inspirational reflections for people with disabilities, family members and care givers. The site also provides endless resources for those with physical, emotional, cognitive, visual, auditory and other special challenges. To access our Facebook page (even if you are not a member of Facebook), type the following into your search engine: Diocese of Metuchen Office for Persons with Disabilities.

**24 HOUR PRAYER LINE** - Our Diocesan Office for Persons with Disabilities has a 24 hour prayer line for those who desire prayer for special needs. (732) 765-6431 or email us at: [catholicswithdisabilities@gmail.com](mailto:catholicswithdisabilities@gmail.com)

**ADULT CHILDREN OF DIVORCE, SEPARATION OR FAMILY BROKENNESS** - A 3-day Life-Giving Wounds Healing Retreat will be held on Friday, August 23 – Sunday, August 25, 2024 at the San Alfonso Retreat House in Long Branch NJ (right on the beach). Topics discussed will include identity, relationship with God, suffering, forgiveness, healing and reconciliation. Cost is \$300 per person which includes accommodations for 2 nights and all meals. For more information and/or to register, please visit [www.diometuchen.org/adult-children-of-divorce](http://www.diometuchen.org/adult-children-of-divorce) For questions, please contact Cristina at [cdaverso@diometuchen.org](mailto:cdaverso@diometuchen.org).

**COUNSELING AND WELLNESS SERVICES** are offered by Catholic Charities of the Diocese of Metuchen. If you or someone you know needs counseling or is impacted by addiction, we can help. Individual and family therapy for children and adults is available. For an appointment, call (800) 655-9491.

**COURAGE** is a spiritual support group helping Catholic men and women live in accordance with the Catholic Church's teaching about same-sex-attraction and discipleship. Courage members strive to develop lives of interior chastity in union with Christ, through participation in the Sacraments, prayer, fellowship and moral support. Courage meets within the Diocese with a priest chaplain. EnCourage is a separate spiritual support group for family members and friends of loved ones with same-sex-attraction. For information about locations and meeting times for each of these groups call: 732-562-2476 for Courage (e mail: [couragecnj@gmail.com](mailto:couragecnj@gmail.com)) and 732-248-9460 for EnCourage. Also visit the national website at [Couragerc.org](http://Couragerc.org).

**HOW TO REPORT SEXUAL ABUSE** If you were sexually abused by a member of the clergy or anyone representing the Catholic Church, or you know of someone who was, you are encouraged to report that abuse to law enforcement and/or by contacting the Diocesan Response Officer at (908) 930- 4558 (24 hours/7 days a week). For information on how to report abuse, visit: <https://diometuchen.org/report--suspected-abuse>.

**Lord, make me an instrument of Your peace.**



# THE REMEMBRANCE GUILD

The following have been enrolled in  
The Remembrance Guild for 2024

## — January —

GIUSEPPE & CONCETTA FORMICA  
JOHN HUBER PATRICIA SEPELLO  
LINDA & LOU CIOFFI  
MATTHEW & MAUREEN KRIER  
MARIE & NICHOLAS GIANNATASIO  
BILL & ELAINE TUTHILL  
MIGUEL HERNANDEZ  
THOMAS KICZULA JR.

## — February —

ALFRED & EVELYN SCHROEDER  
JOSEPH & ELIZABETH GREGO  
EUGENE COOPER

## — March —

JOANNA DEPASQUALE

Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord, and let  
perpetual light shine upon them.  
May they rest in peace. Amen.

## THE REMEMBRANCE GUILD

The Church of the Sacred Heart offers an additional option to the weekly Mass intentions and candle offerings. You are invited to enroll the names of your loved ones in the Sacred Heart Remembrance Guild. The intentions of those enrolled will be remembered in prayer at the First Saturday 9AM Mass, each month for one year. The names of those entered each month will be printed in the church's bulletin and on a Remembrance Guild Page that will be placed in church. The Guild's hard-cover, distinctive Mass card may be obtained at the Parish Center Office with an offering of \$75 for this annual remembrance.

CONSIDER A MASS, CANDLE, FLORAL OR TREE OF LIFE MEMORIAL - 2024 Mass Intentions, Enrollment in the Sacred Heart Remembrance Guild, Candles at the statues of the Sacred Heart of Jesus, the Blessed Mother, and the Sanctuary Lamp, as well as Flowers for the altar in church (basket or vase) are available memorials to remember a loved one, living or deceased. Brass leaves on the Tree of Life located in the front entrance of the church are also available. Please contact Lisa in the Parish Center 908-756-0633 x110 about the options. Have your loved one's name printed in the bulletin and remembered in the prayer.



## Holy Eucharist

- † CELEBRATED
- † ADORED
- † RECEIVED
- † LIVED



**Jesus, I trust in You.**

## PRAYER FOR MY SPIRITUAL COMMUNION



My Jesus, I believe that You are in the Blessed Sacrament. I love You above all things, and I long for You in my soul. Since I cannot now receive You sacramentally, come at least spiritually into my heart. As though You have already come, I embrace You and unite myself entirely to You; never permit me to be separated from You.  
**Amen.**



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