

# Church of the Sacred Heart

Church: 149 South Plainfield Ave., South Plainfield, NJ 07080

Parish Center & Mailing Address: 200 Randolph Ave., South Plainfield, NJ 07080

Third Sunday of Easter, April 19, 2026



Window over church front door: St. Margaret Mary Alacoque and Jesus

## MASS SCHEDULE

Weekend: Saturday Vigil Mass 5:00PM, Sunday 9:00AM and 11:30AM

Daily: Monday 7:00PM, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday, and Saturday 9:00AM

Holy Days 9:00AM, 12:10 PM and 7:00PM

## CONFESSIONS

Saturday 10:00 to 11:30AM and by appointment

## EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION

Monday 6:00 to 7:00PM

## PARISH CENTER HOURS

Monday 8:00AM to 6:30AM

Tuesday to Thursday 8:00AM to 4:00PM

Friday 8:00AM to 12:00PM

908-756-0633

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

## Welcome

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 and the larger community, while celebrating the Christ present in each of us.

**"Let no hardship turn you from the path of righteousness. Stand firm in Christ, and fear no foe."**

**St. George, fourth century,  
Feast day April 23**

Connect with us on our parish website [churchofthesacredheart.net](http://churchofthesacredheart.net), Facebook, Instagram. Watch our livestreams on our Parish YouTube channel.

## Parish Staff

908-756-0633

Pastor:

Rev. Edmund Luciano III, KCHS, KOGCO

In Residence:

Rev. David Keyes

Deacons:

D. Gregory Caruso

D. Ketan Christian

Director of Sacred Music:

Daniel Mahoney x139

Director of Religious Education:

Louise Timko, PhD x143

Office Administrator:

Anna Stillo x110

Facilities Manager:

J. Michael Mazzaresse x140

Facilities Maintenance:

Brian Sporman

Information Technology:

Marvel Abaquita x146

Staff Assistant:

Sr. Nadine Boyle, RSM x118

Sacristans:

Cathy Reilly

Nancy Van Allen

## Holy Redeemer Cemetery:

Lynda Yelenovsky x111

908- 822-5892

## Altar Server Schedule

**April 25—26**

5:00PM D. Jastrzeleshi, B. Rinaldi

9:00AM K., K., & J. Singh,

11:30AM B. Macwan, R. & J. Adenau

## Baptism

The sacrament is celebrated on the second and fourth Sundays of every month at 1:00PM except during the Season of Lent. Contact: Sr. Nadine Boyle, RSM, ext. 118

## Anointing of the Sick

In the event of serious illness, major surgery, hospitalization, or near death (young or old) arrange for the celebration of this sacrament.

## Communion Visits

If you or someone you know is homebound and unable to attend Mass due to age or illness, we can make arrangements for Communion visits on a weekly basis.

## Matrimony

Planning a church wedding? Please contact us so we can help you prepare and lay the groundwork for a successful, lifelong commitment. Couples should begin the process one year in advance of the planned date of marriage.

If you were married in a civil ceremony only and would now like your marriage to be valid in the eyes of the Church, please contact us.

## Order of Christian Initiation for Adults

If you'd like to learn more about becoming Catholic or receiving the Sacraments of Initiation: Baptism, Confirmation and/or Eucharist as an adult, please contact: Louise Timko, ext. 143.

## Becoming a Parishioner

It's easy! Contact our office or download the form on the parish website and return it to the Parish Center.

## Sponsor Letters

Sponsor certificates and letters are not automatically provided. There are criteria for these documents, including registration in the parish for at least three months, among other qualifications.

## Funerals

The passing of a loved one is a difficult time. We can help you to plan a solemn and reverent liturgical celebration of the Catholic Christian community for the deceased.

## Holy Redeemer Cemetery

1734 Clinton Ave., South Plainfield, NJ 07080

908-822-5892 [holyredeemercemetery.net](http://holyredeemercemetery.net)

Graves, mausoleum crypts, and cremation niches

Hours: 8:00AM – 7:00PM (April 15 – Sept 15)

8:00AM – 4:30PM (Sept 16 – April 14)

## Masses

### Saturday, April 18, Easter Weekday

5:00 PM Ferman DeHart, r. by Johanna & Domenick Salvemini

### Sunday, April 19, Third Sunday of Easter

9:00 AM Luigi Fragassi, r. by Wife Iole & Family

11:30 AM Charles "Bud" Mahoney, r. by Family

### Monday, April 20, Easter Weekday

6:00 PM Eucharistic Adoration and Rosary 6:45PM Benediction

7:00 PM Ben & Angela DiCorrado, r. by Bob & Anita Keller; Dan & June Ventriglia, r. by Bob & Anita Keller; Josephine Egidio, r. by Maryann Kane & Anita Keller

### Tuesday, April 21, Easter Weekday

9:00 AM Mark Paskowitz, r. by Mom, Dad & Family

### Wednesday, April 22, Easter Weekday

9:00 AM Josephine Egidio, r. by Sacristans

### Thursday, April 23, Easter Weekday

9:00AM Parishioners of the Parish

### Friday, April 24, Easter Weekday

9:00 AM Anthony Chiaverini, r. by Irene Donnelly

### Saturday, April 25, Easter Weekday

9:00 AM Josephine Egidio, r. by Irene Donnelly; Matthew McCue, r. by Michael & Janet Townley; Bernice Jeronowitz, r. by Husband Robert; For the Health Intentions of Consuelo Sosa; r. by Muradas Family; For the Intentions of Augustine Yeleti, r. by Family In Thanksgiving for prayers answered.

5:00PM Rosemary Cox, r. by Rosemary, Thomas & Steve

**Virgin Mary Candle** burns in memory of Josephine Egidio, r. by Judi Jones

**Sacred Heart Candle** burns in memory of Br. David Sommer S.T., r. by SSJ prayer group

**Sanctuary Candle** burns in memory of Nicola DeSantis, r. by Loving Wife Pat



## We Pray for:

### For those who are sick, or in nursing homes and hospitals

Michael Lauten, Barb Napoleon, Barbara Nuber, Gabriella Van Heest, Theresa Billian, Kenneth Faulkner-Alexander, Rain Patton, George Jones, Ivonne Montecalvo, Lisa Saverd, Alfonsina Brizuela, John Dmytruk, Thomas Zullinger, Larry Makoski, Dorothy Mercier, Fred Anziano, Leonor Fessock, Ana Serro, Consuelo Sosa

### For those who have died

Diane M. Crino, William McDonough, Ramona Mojo, Maria McDermott, Rev. Msgr. Richard Lyons, Florence Capparelli, Josephine Egidio, Carmela Limoncelli Ciccarella, Kristen Vetesy, Terence Barry, Michael N. Encardone, Rosa M. Florentino, Gerald J. Vitale, George T. Jones, Patricia A. Wagner and all the Faithful Departed of Sacred Heart Parish & their families who mourn their loss

### Those in the Military

LCPL Francis Flannery/US Marines/California; Spc. Daniel Rybeck/US Army;  
Cpl. Anthony Mazzaferro/US Marines/Hawaii

# LIFE-GIVING *Wounds* RETREAT

A Healing Retreat for Adult Children of Divorce or Separation





Saturday,  
July 11, 2026

St. John Neumann  
Pastoral Center  
146 Metlars Lane  
Piscataway, NJ 08854



Registration is  
only \$40

Come for a greater understanding of the wounds left by your parents' divorce or separation, for advice concerning love and trust of others, and for an experience of Christ and community that will lead to deeper self-understanding and healing.

The retreat price includes a light breakfast, boxed lunches, and all retreat materials.

To register, go to  
[https://fundraise.givesmart.com/form/Kr\\_vIg?vid=towdrh](https://fundraise.givesmart.com/form/Kr_vIg?vid=towdrh)  
or scan the QR code to the right.  
Questions? Email Maria Agnese at [magnese@diometuchen.org](mailto:magnese@diometuchen.org)



## Collection Totals

Week Ending April 12, 2026:

Envelopes:	\$ 11,940
Online giving:	\$ 4,328
Totals:	\$ 16,268


Thank you for your continued support  
of our parish.

## Bereavement Support Group

Seasons of Hope is our parish bereavement support group. This group provides a safe, confidential place to share stories and feelings of loss and receive peer support in order to foster healing. Sessions run every Thursday through May 14 from 7:00PM to 9:00PM in the Annex building. The cost is \$10.00. To register, call Joanne Otlowski at 908-705-4577 or email [libraryjo74@gmail.com](mailto:libraryjo74@gmail.com)

### Prayer:

O Mary, Conceived Without Sin, Pray for Us Who Have Recourse to Thee.



## Women in the Bible

Would you like to meet some of them? Sr. Kathleen will be “introducing” some of these women in a 3-week Bible study. By recent study estimates, there are 333 women mentioned in the Bible, but only 166 are named and only 93 have their words recorded in Scripture. Collectively, all the women who speak in the Bible comprise approximately 1% of the Biblical text.

What do these named and unnamed, speaking and silent women have to say to us today? Come and find out! Wednesdays—April 22, 29th and May 6th. The classes will be held in person, in the Parish Center, from 10:00—11:30AM and on Zoom from 7:00—8:30PM. Both sessions are the same. (Men are welcome to attend too!) 😊

**To register:**  
**Zoom:** Send Sr. Kathleen your email to receive the link: [kathleenrooneyssj@gmail.com](mailto:kathleenrooneyssj@gmail.com)  
**In-person:** Send sister your email and indicate IN PERSON, or call the parish center (908-756-0633) to sign up.

# MYSTERY *of* GOD

...an 8 week course with Fr. Glenn Comandini, STD.  
Coordinator of On-Going Faith Formation




**St. John Neumann  
Pastoral Center**  
146 Metlars Lane,  
Piscataway, NJ

**Thursdays,  
April 9 - May 28, 2026**  
10:15 AM - 11:30 AM  
Students are welcome to stay for  
11:45 Mass in the Chapel.

**Register Online:**  
<https://diometuchen.org/faith-formation>  
**\$20 per person, for all 8 classes**

Questions: Email  
[magnese@diometuchen.org](mailto:magnese@diometuchen.org)  
or call 732-562-1543

- Come learn what has been revealed to us in Scripture and Tradition concerning the One Tri-Personal God: Father, Son and Holy Spirit.
- Explore why we can only know God insofar as he reveals himself to us
- Discover how God is a mystery to be lived, not a problem to be solved.

Please bring a Bible such as the New American Bible or Revised Standard Version.  
If needed, the New American Bible may be purchased for \$10 during online registration.

## Summer Camp

Do your kids need something to do this summer? Holy Savior Academy is running a Summer Camp between June 22 and August 14. Children can attend either daily or for a week or more. Beforecare and Aftercare are available as well. This is not a Religious Education program. No credit for Religious Education can be given. For details and to register, use this QR code or contact Holy Savior Academy (908-822-5890).



## Rise Up and Run Challenge

Support Holy Savior Academy by donating to its 5th Storm Rise Up and Run FUNd Fitness Challenge! between now and May 18. School goals include exercising for 150,000 minutes, raising \$30,000, and getting donations from every state! Use the QR code at right. (To learn more click on the yellow tab the QR code brings you to.)



## 2026 Bishop's Annual Appeal ONE IN CHRIST: Called to Love and Serve

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! Scan this QR code to reach our secure online giving site.



**Parish Goal: \$113,000**  
**Pledged: \$109,192.20**  
**Received: \$95,685.95**  
**Average Gift: 429.89**

**%Pledged Goal: 96.63**  
**%Received Goal: 84.68**

## Social Concerns Ministry

On behalf of the Sacred Heart Social Concerns Ministry, we thank all those whose generosity has enabled us to serve the less fortunate of our community. If you know of families in need, please have them call 908-756-0633 x112,

**Monday, Wednesday, Friday between 9:00AM and 11:00AM.**

Our primary source of funding is from the Poor Boxes at the doors of the church. Also, bins at the doors are provided for donations of non-perishable food items.

Currently we are in need of:

**Soap, Shampoo, and Canned Fruit.**

**[socialconcerns@churchofthesacredheart.net](mailto:socialconcerns@churchofthesacredheart.net)**

## St. Thomas Aquinas High School—

**16th Annual  
Aquinas Golf Classic  
May 4, 2026**

Metuchen Golf & Country  
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Our Babies **THANK YOU** for your Love and Support!

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## NJ CATHOLIC YOUTH RALLY 2026

**Sunday, May 17<sup>th</sup>** at Six Flags Great Adventure.

We invite you to come for a day filled with a dynamic opening ceremony (hosted by the Diocese of Metuchen), many rides, and a concluding Holy Mass!

Please see **sign-up link here:**

<https://fundraise.givesmart.com/form/-4AuPA?vid=1pazyq>

As we await final steps from six flags, please start to consider how many tickets you would like per your youth group/parish/school.

More details about the day can be found on the Diocesan Website at:

<https://www.diometuchen.org/youth-rally>

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## Consecrating the United States to the Sacred Heart of Jesus

In June 2026, as part of the celebration of the 250th anniversary of the signing of the Declaration of Independence marking the establishment of this nation, the U.S. bishops will consecrate the United States of America to the Sacred Heart of Jesus. Parishes around the country are encouraged to join the bishops in consecrating our nation to the Sacred Heart in June.

There will be a novena leading up to the Solemnity of the Most Sacred Heart of Jesus (June 12). It will begin on June 3 and end on June 11.

For more information go to:

<https://www.usccb.org/weholdthesetruths>

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## This Is Our Faith

### The Earliest Days of the Church

How did the early Church take shape and grow? Initially, the followers of Jesus gathered in a small community in Jerusalem. Acts of the Apostles tells us that they worshipped together daily and shared everything they had with one another. Peter was looked to as a leader of the group, though there was no formal structure, and a relative of Jesus named James (probably the Apostle James the Less) seems to have been the specific leader of the community in Jerusalem. There's a lot more to the story than this, though, and it is anything but idyllic. From the very beginning, there was stress. The followers of Jesus had no worked out plan about how they were going to preach about Jesus. Many of their decisions were made in the moment and often after a fair amount of argument and uncertainty.

The Good News the apostles shared was that Jesus, an obscure Galilean (for example, not from a wealthy aristocratic family) was raised from the dead and was the long-awaited messiah. At the time, not all Jews believed in resurrection so this in itself was controversial. The Pharisees did believe in resurrection, but the Sadducees did not. And since the Sadducees were the elite of Jewish society and included high priests and wealthy merchants, they were not inclined to look favorably on any group that had an unusual interpretation of how to be Jewish and maybe challenge their power. Acts tells us, members of the Sadducees had their eyes on followers of Jesus like Peter and John, having them whipped and beaten and warning them not to preach about Him at all.

While some Jews found the apostles' preaching persuasive, most did not. Unexpectedly, there were non-Jews – Gentiles – who did express interest in Jesus. Did they have to become Jewish to follow Jesus? Did the men have to be circumcised? Did Jewish food laws and Temple rituals have to be followed? Questions like these took awhile to figure out as preaching about Jesus expanded around the Mediterranean. In addition to tensions between followers of Jesus and Jewish leaders back in Judea, there were also disagreements that local Roman leaders encountered when Jews and followers of Jesus argued with one another. When were arguments internal religious disputes and when were these a serious threat to the public order?

At first, followers of Jesus simply said they followed the Way. They seemed to have referred to themselves as disciples, brethren or even, saints (not the way we understand saint as a formal designation of proven sanctity, but rather as one who sought holiness). The word Christian was first used in the city of Antioch in Syria to describe these followers of Jesus.

Eventually, these early Christians started to write down what they knew about Jesus and believed about Him. The earliest writings we have come from St. Paul, writing between 50 and 65 AD (starting about twenty years after Jesus). The Gospel of Mark was written shortly after 70 AD, when the Temple was destroyed and most Jews fled from what is now Israel. The earliest years of the Church were dynamic, but neither perfect nor easy.—Louise Timko, PhD, Director of Faith Formation



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