

Saint Simon Stock Parish

178 W. WHITE HORSE PIKE • BERLIN, NJ 08009

The Roman Catholic Community of Saint Simon Stock Parish established in 2009 from the merger of Saint Edward Church (Pine Hill) and Our Lady of Mount Carmel Church (Berlin), under the pastoral care of the Religious Institute of the Alagad ni Maria (Disciples of Mary).

Twentieth Sunday in Ordinary Time AUGUST 16, 2026

Rev. Michael A. de Leon, A.M., Pastor
pastor@stsimonstock.net / ext. 301

Rev. Joseph D. Ciar, A.M., Parochial Vicar
fatherjoseph@stsimonstock.net / ext. 306

Rev. Philip Ramos, A.M., In Residence

Deacon Bob Iuliucci
deaconbob@stsimonstock.net

Patti Infanti, Pastoral Associate/Office Administration / ext. 300
patti@stsimonstock.net

Betty Cipolone, Bookkeeper / ext. 310
betty@stsimonstock.net

Mary Spicer, Faith Formation for Children
ext. 314, mary@stsimonstock.net

Jennifer Smith, Director, Senior Ministry
jennifer@stsimonstock.net / ext. 307

Carmela Covone, Assistant Director Senior Ministry
carmela@stsimonstock.net / ext. 307

Liz Williams, Music Director
liz@stsimonstock.net

Rich Galassini
Contemporary Ensemble Director
rich@cunninghampiano.com

Alice Malloy / 856-767-1751
Principal, OLMC School

Rich Sbarra
Maintenance Manager

Sacrament of Baptism

Baptisms will be held on the 2nd and 3rd Sundays of the month at 1:30 pm. Parents must call the parish office to register for Baptism class held on the 3rd Monday of the month at 7 pm in the Parish Life Center.

Sacrament of Reconciliation

Every Saturday: 3:00 – 3:45 pm in the church or by appointment.

Sacrament of Holy Anointing

Anyone seriously ill or facing surgery, please call 856-767-2563 during office hours or call 856-767-2563 ext. 301 after office hours and leave a message to make arrangements for the anointing of the sick.

Sacrament of Holy Matrimony

Marriages are arranged at least one year in advance. Please speak to Father Michael for more information.

Sacrament of Holy Orders

If you or someone you know feel the calling to be a priest, or a religious (men or women), please speak with Father Michael or one of the parish priests for guidance and discernment. God bless you.



“Please, Lord, for even the dogs eat the scraps that fall from the table of their masters.” Matthew 15:27

Mass Schedule

Monday - Saturday: 8:00 am
Saturday: 4:00 pm
Sunday: 8:00, 10:00 am & 12:00 pm

Eucharistic Adoration

First Wednesday of each month
8:45 am - 7:00 pm

Every Wednesday
6:00 pm - 7:00 pm

Church is open for private prayer
Monday - Friday: 9:00 am - 5:00 pm
Saturday: 9:00 am - 5:00 pm

856.767.2563 / 856.767.8791 (fax)

Emergency (outside of office hours)
856.767.2563 ext. 301 - leave message

Email: office@stsimonstock.net

Web: www.StSimonStock.net

Parish Office Summer Hours
Monday - Thursday: 9:00 am - 4:00 pm
Friday 9:00 am – 12 pm

Follow us on Social Media:



Mission Statement: Saint Simon Stock Parish is a welcoming community, guided by the Holy Spirit and nourished by the Word, Sunday celebration of the Eucharist is the center of parish life. Through our Baptismal call, we generously share our time, talent, and treasure. As responsible stewards of the Kingdom of God, we give joyful witness to Jesus's Gospel of love.

PARISH BULLETIN BOARD

PARISHIONERS INFORMATION UPDATE

New Parishioners

Welcome to St. Simon Stock Parish!

We invite you to become active in the various ministries that the Parish offers. The easiest way to register is to go online at www.StSimonStock.net/ParishRegistration. If you prefer, you also can contact the Parish Office to schedule an appointment to meet with a priest for parish registration. Attending Mass does not automatically make you a registered member.

Parishioners

If you have new contact information, new members in your household, or someone in your household has received a sacrament, please contact the Parish Office so that our records are updated. Adult children should register themselves separately from their parents. **If you have not been receiving your weekly envelopes**, again, please contact the Parish Office to ensure that your address is registered correctly. If you are moving away, please let us know. Parish Office: 856-767-2563 or email us at office@stsimonstock.net.

Call to Prayer



Please join us as we pray the **Holy Rosary and the Divine Mercy Chaplet** every day (Monday-Saturday) following the 8 AM Mass. **Join us also in praying the Holy Rosary for the unborn** in the church **every Tuesday at 2 pm**.

Adoration on August 19, 2026

Holy Hour and Benediction at 6 pm

Jesus is inviting you to His home. Go and have a good time!



Prayers to all who celebrate August birthdays

Lee Bilbrough 8/02
Michael Quinn 8/06
Flordeliza Alpajora 8/18
Sally Rosenbaum 8/19
Michael Zook 8/20
Diane Flood 8/21
Patti Infanti 8/21
Rev Michael A. de Leon, AM 8/22
Agatha Cullin 8/22
Robert Bickerdyke 8/22
Tousha Bailey 8/23
Eleanor Fahringer 8/23
Robert Tartamosa 8/24
Frank Epifanio 8/29
Ruth Fahringer 8/29
Elayne Hill 8/31
Wendy Bradley 8/31
Stan Quamman 8/31



Prayers to all who celebrate August Anniversaries



Marie & Brian Leyden 8/2
Martin & Bernie Durney 8/17
William & Penny Tresca 8/25
Maury & Eileen Hendron 8/25
Robert & Anna Bickerdyke 8/26 (71 years)
Deacon Bob & Mary Iuliucci 8/27 (50 yrs)
Penny & Buzzy Shone 8/27

Baptism Class

The next Baptism class is scheduled this Monday, **August 17, 2026, at 7 pm**, in the Parish Life Center. Please call the Parish office to register.

SENIOR MINISTRY

Senior Ministry meets **Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays from 9 am to 1 pm** (Lunch served at 12 noon) in the Parish Life Center. All are invited to come join in the fun!

Aug. 25	OCIA Gathering 6:30 pm
Sept. 7	Labor Day – Parish Office Closed
Sept. 8	OLMC School Opens
Sept. 12	Harvest Festival
Oct. 10	Pre-Cana Session
Oct. 12	Columbus Day-School & Parish Office closed
Nov. 22	Parish Anniversary Mass



Priest Schedule for August 22/23, 2026 Twenty-First Sunday in Ordinary Time

(subject to change without notice)

8/22	3-3:45 pm	Confessions	Fr. Joseph
	4 pm	Mass	Fr. Joseph
8/23	8 am	Mass	Fr. Joseph / Deacon Bob
	10 am	Mass	Fr. Joseph / Deacon Bob
	12 pm	Mass	Fr. Joseph

SANCTUARY CANDLE

Our Sanctuary Candle will remain lit during the week of August 15th at 4pm to 8am on August 22nd in memory of **Michael Infanti** requested by his loving wife, Patti



2026 Special Collections

Sept. 6	Catholic University of America
Oct. 4	Pro-Life Collection
Oct. 18	World Mission Sunday
Nov. 15	Catholic Campaign for Human Development
Dec. 13	Retired Religious Collection



Parish Office Summer Hours

Monday through Thursday, 9 am to 4 pm
Fridays from 9 am to 12 noon.



While you are enjoying the summer sun and activity, don't forget your home parish, Saint Simon Stock. Your help will still be needed to meet the current parish expenses.

If while on vacation you cannot contribute regularly, may we suggest that you keep the unused envelopes on hand and bring your contribution up-to-date when you return; or consider joining the **Parish Giving** where your weekly contribution is automatically deducted on a monthly basis from your checking account or credit card at no cost to you? For more information on signing up, go to parish website or call the Parish Office at 856-767-2563 ext. 301.

Please call the Parish Office to add a birthday/anniversary. Special blessing for those celebrating in August will be given at all Masses this weekend of August 29/30, 2026

PASTOR'S MESSAGE

Dear parishioners,

I hope you are all doing well, enjoying the summer, and staying cool and safe. This week, I would like to reflect on an important question raised by one of our parishioners about Holy Days of Obligation and the Solemnity of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary.

Why is the Solemnity of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary on August 15 not a Holy Day of Obligation this year, 2026? Is there an underlying liturgical and canonical rule governing Holy Days of Obligation?

This is a wonderful question because it helps us understand not only the Church's laws but also the spiritual purpose behind them.

In the United States, the **Solemnity of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary (August 15, 2026)** is **not a Holy Day of Obligation**, even though it remains one of the Church's most important feasts. This is because **August 15 falls on a Saturday in 2026**, and according to the particular law approved for the Church in the United States, the obligation to attend Mass is **abrogated (lifted)** whenever January 1, August 15, or November 1 falls on a Saturday or Monday.

The governing norm is found in **Canon 1246 §2** of the Code of Canon Law, which permits a conference of bishops, with approval from the Holy See, to suppress certain holy days of obligation or transfer them to Sunday. Accordingly, the U.S. bishops established that whenever **Mary, Mother of God (January 1), the Assumption (August 15), or All Saints Day (November 1)** falls immediately before or after Sunday, the obligation to attend Mass is removed.

Therefore, for August 15, 2026:

- **The Assumption falls on a Saturday.**
- **The solemnity is still celebrated liturgically.**
- **The obligation to attend Mass is removed.**
- **Catholics are encouraged, though not required, to participate in Mass.**

While it is important to understand the law, it is even more important to understand the meaning of a Holy Day of Obligation. The Church does not establish these days simply as obligations to fulfill. Rather, they are sacred opportunities to step away from our ordinary routines and focus on the saving mysteries of our faith. They remind us that our relationship with God deserves a special place in our lives and that worship is at the heart of who we are as Christians.

Holy Days of Obligation invite us to gather as one family of faith around the Eucharistic table. They celebrate significant moments in the life of Christ, the Blessed Virgin Mary, and the saints. These feasts strengthen our faith, deepen our

communion with God, and help us keep our eyes fixed on the ultimate goal of eternal life.

The **Solemnity of the Assumption** is a particularly beautiful feast because it reminds us of the hope we share as Christians. The Church teaches that at the end of her earthly life, Mary was assumed body and soul into heavenly glory. In Mary, we see the fulfillment of God's promise and a sign of what awaits all who faithfully follow Christ. Her Assumption is not only a privilege given to the Mother of God; it is also a message of hope for the whole Church.

For that reason, even though the obligation is lifted this year, the significance of the feast remains unchanged. The absence of an obligation should never be interpreted as a reduction in the importance of the celebration. Rather, it gives us an opportunity to respond freely to God's invitation. We may choose to attend Mass, pray the Rosary, spend time with Scripture, or reflect on Mary's faithful "yes" to God's will. Each of these can help us enter more deeply into the mystery of this solemnity.

There are two important exceptions to the U.S. norm. The lifting of the obligation does **not** apply to:

- **The Immaculate Conception (December 8)**, the patronal feast of the United States.
- **Christmas (December 25).**

These remain Holy Days of Obligation regardless of the day on which they fall.

For **2026**, the Holy Days of Obligation for Latin Rite Catholics in the United States include:

- January 1, Mary, Mother of God (Thursday)
- Ascension (Thursday or transferred to Sunday, depending on the province)
- November 1, All Saints Day (Sunday)
- December 8, Immaculate Conception (Tuesday)
- December 25, Christmas (Friday)

Thus, **August 15, the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary, is celebrated as a solemnity but is not a Holy Day of Obligation because it falls on a Saturday.**

Here in the Diocese of Camden, we follow this national norm. Even so, I warmly encourage you to celebrate this beautiful feast. Mary always leads us closer to her Son. As we honor her Assumption into heaven, may we renew our trust in God's promises, deepen our love for the Eucharist, and remember that our true homeland is heaven.

May the Blessed Virgin Mary, assumed into heavenly glory, intercede for us and inspire us to live each day with faith, hope, and joyful expectation of the life to come.

Peace and blessings,
Fr. Michael



STEWARDSHIP OF WORSHIP AND LITURGY

Mass Intentions for the Week

SAT 8/15 The Assumption of Mary
8 AM † Mary Carey r/b Melissa Carey
4 PM Twentieth Sunday in Ordinary Time (Vigil)
 † **Irving Motlock & Valentina McGee**
 r/b loving wife/loving daughter, Dolores
 † **Joseph Talucci** r/b his loving wife, Karen
 † **Mary Carey** r/b Norm & Mary Spicer
SUN 8/16 Twentieth Sunday in Ordinary Time
8 AM L Parishioners and Benefactors (Pro Populo)
 † **Rev. John A. DelDuca**
 † **Patricia Magee** r/b Jamie & Patti Savery
 † **Frank Migliaccio** r/b Mary
 † **Keith A. Austin** r/b Vince Marra
10 AM LIVE STREAMED
 † **Dominic DiMatteo & Michael Carpenter**
 r/b JoAnn Matteo
12 PM † John J. Ervin Jr. r/b Bea Jackson
 † **Jeannette Estoye** r/b her loving Family
MON 8/17
8 AM † John DePalma r/b Maria Stoltz
TUES 8/18
8 AM † Sarah Saldia r/b Regina Richards
WED 8/19
8 AM † Luca Bunoza r/b Loretta Bunoza
THURS 8/20
8 AM † Jerry Merola r/b his loving Sister
FRI 8/21
8 AM † Rev. Albert E. Harshaw
SAT 8/22
8 AM † Richard Driscoll, Jr. r/b Marita Conrad
4 PM Twenty-First Sunday in Ordinary Time (Vigil)
 † **James & Delores Porter** r/b Porter Family
 † **Florence Dowell**
 r/b Palma Williams & Maryann Dugan
SUN 8/23 Twenty-First Sunday in Ordinary Time
8 AM † Barbara Kachnie r/b Arlene Frattone
10 AM LIVE STREAMED
 † **Richard Driscoll** r/b his loving brother, Shawn
 † **Mary Ann Carey** r/b Dominic & Jean Lizzio
 † **Rosina Gasparro** r/b Sorensen Family
 † **Charles Cutter** r/b Carole Ann & Brendan
 † **Alfred Francis Salvatore, Sr.**
 r/b Len & Diana Badolato
12 PM L Parishioners and Benefactors (Pro Populo)

L = Living † = Deceased

Priest Schedule for August 15/16, 2026 Twentieth Sunday in Ordinary Time (subject to change without notice)

8/15 3-3:45 pm Confessions Fr. Michael
4 pm Mass Fr. Michael
8/16 8 am Mass Fr. Michael
10 am Mass Fr. Michael
12 pm Mass Fr. Michael

Readings

Twentieth Sunday in Ordinary Time

August 16, 2026

First Reading: Isaiah 56:1, 6-7

The Lord wants all people to love and honor his name. He says that those who honor him by obeying all of his laws will be "made joyful in my house of prayer."

Second Reading: Romans 11:13-15, 29-32

Paul describes his hopes that his fellow Jews will follow the example of the Gentiles he has been preaching to. He claims that just as God has mercy for their disobedience, he wishes to show mercy to the Jews as well.

Gospel: Matthew 15:21-28

A Canaanite woman begged Jesus to help her daughter, who was being plagued by a demon. Jesus at first refused her and said that "My mission is only to the lost sheep of the house of Israel." The woman was so persistent that Jesus said she had great faith and then he healed her daughter.

Monday Ez 24:15-23; Mt 19:16-22
Tuesday Ez 28:1-10; Mt 19:23-30
Wednesday Ez 34:1-11; Mt 20:1-16
Thursday Ez 36:23-28; Mt 22:1-14
Friday Ez 37:1-14; Mt 22:34-40
Saturday Ez 43:1-7ab; Mt 23:1-12

Stewardship

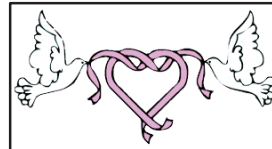
Twentieth Sunday in Ordinary Time

August 16, 2026

Good Stewards

"For the gifts and the call of God are irrevocable."
 ROMANS 11:29

God has a special mission in mind for each of us. He has given us the gifts we need to accomplish that mission. We are called to be good stewards by using those gifts to do the work that He has planned for each of us. If we deny our gifts or fail to use them as God calls us to use them, then some part of His work will be left undone. Each of us has a part in God's salvation plan.



PRE-CANA SESSION

The next Pre-Cana session is scheduled for **Saturday, October 10, 2026**. To register, contact the Parish Office to register

Grief Support

Wednesday, September 23rd through November 11th
 5:30-7:00 pm

Parish Life Center

If you are experiencing grief from the loss of a loved one, consider joining this 8-week grief support program to help you through your sad experience. Register by calling the Parish Office.

AUGUST LITURGICAL SCHEDULE

August 15/16	4:00 pm	8:00 AM	10:00 AM	12:00 Noon
EMs	Agatha Cullin Frank Epifanio, Jr. Eleanor Fahringer Bonnie Piontkowski Karen Talucci	Barb Davis Rosemarie Manes Robert Tartamosa Sheila Tartamosa Marge Worthmann	Ed Bond Jim Gillespie Lisa Gillespie Nikki McNamara Nora Rowan	Wendy Bradley Toni Powers Riv Voltaire
Lectors	Aida Figueroa-Epifanio	Chris Green	Cathy Rainey	Don DeSorte
Music	Liz	Rich/Lynne	Rich/Mike	Liz/Tony
Altar Servers	Kaydence Leahey Gordon Schaeffer Gemma Schaeffer Gia Schaeffer Giulia Maimone Ava Moran Frankie Epifanio	Liam Farina	Bryson Morton	Madison Grochal Gabrielle Corielus
Jr Altar Server	Maddie Moran	Lily Farina	Matthew Trant	
Ushers	Tom Galen, Jim Pacifico, Rudy Perocho, John Lattuga, Bill Bansch, Jim Blackmore, Rich Grabowski, Mark Fahringer	Joe Adolph, Joe Karas, Joe Blasé Sr. & Jr., Bob Fahringer, Rick Danser, Bill Fox, Derrick Watkins, Dennis Consalvi	Chris Brisbin, Brian Fruit Tom Carey, Jeremiah McNamara, Mike McGee, Keith Jones, Chris Morris, Frank Flood, George Turner, Ed Bond Rich Cattell	Roger Strong, Frank Vein, Brian Leyden

STEWARDSHIP COMPASSION AND COMMUNITY

PRAYERS FOR THE MILITARY Please Pray for the Welfare of our Military

ARMY

Capt. Bryan Gillespie, USAR
Capt. Jason E. Healey, USAR
Capt. Lewis Nicoletto, USAR
Capt. Andrew Winters, USAR
Lt. Patrick Delany, USAR
SSgt. Joseph R. Garback, USAR
Sgt. Tyler Fisher, USAR
Sgt. Michael Franzini, USAR
Spc. Sean Gillespie, USAR
Spc. Justin Scheuren, USAR
Pfc. Amanda Sylvester, USAR
Joseph Morris III, USAR
Nadeem Sarwar, USAR

MARINES

Sgt. Adam Cutaiar, USMC

AIR FORCE

MSgt. Jeremiah McNamara USAF
SSgt. Nicholas R. Luthe USAF
SSgt. Taylor Purvis, USAF
SSgt. David Sigwart, USAF
A1C Jack Erikson USAF

NAVY

Ensign Joseph Bilella USN
PO 1st Class Damien Renzi, USN
PO 2nd Class Michael Angelow, USN
PO 2nd Class Joseph Connell USN.
PO 2nd Class Russell Hagner, USN
Sherri Mercier, USN

COAST GUARD

Cmdr. Luke Slizinski, USCG
Matthew Angelow, USCG

To add or remove a name from our Military, please email Jim Gillespie Jr. at gillespiejas@comcast.net and provide name, rank, and branch of service.

Health Ministry

Summer Fun and Smart Snacking with Type 1 Diabetes

Summer brings vacations, family gatherings, outdoor activities, and busy schedules. With so much going on, it's easy to delay meals or grab whatever snack is nearby. For individuals living with Type 1 diabetes, planning ahead with healthy snacks can help maintain steady blood sugar levels and provide energy for summer fun. Choose snacks that combine carbohydrates with protein whenever possible, such as:

- Apple slices with peanut butter
- Low-fat cheese and whole grain crackers
- Greek yogurt with berries
- Trail mix with unsalted nuts and dried fruit
- Fresh vegetables with hummus

Keep healthy snacks and water nearby when traveling, attending picnics, or spending time outdoors. Planning can

Harvest Festival Pie Baking Contest



Have a favorite, fantastic, fruit or nut pie? Think it will win in our **1st Annual Pie Baking Contest** during the Harvest Festival? Yes, there will be Judges! All pies must be registered. See the registration form below. Once you submit your form, we will contact you. Prizes will be given to 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place.

Pie Baking Contest for Harvest Festival 2026 Registration form

Name: _____

Phone #: _____

Email: _____

Pie category (fruit or nut): _____

Must be submitted no later than **August 30, 2026**
Can be put in collection basket or given at Parish Office.
One submission per household.

Good Luck!



help you avoid unhealthy choices and reduce the risk of low blood sugar during increased physical activity.



Remember: Healthy snacks support your body's needs, but they do not replace your prescribed insulin or regular diabetes care plan. Talk with your healthcare provider about the best snack choices for your individual needs.

Tousha Bailey MSN-Ed, RN
Parish Nurse

STEWARDSHIP OF LITURGY AND COMMUNITY

A New Approach to the Distribution of Holy Communion

For many years, the priest celebrant has typically stood in the center aisle to distribute Holy Communion. Beginning in August, while this practice will often continue, the priest will periodically distribute Communion from different locations within the church. On some weekends, he may stand on the left side near the statue of the Blessed Virgin Mary. At other times, he may stand in the center aisle, as usual, or on the right side near the choir section.

This change comes from a thoughtful suggestion by one of our parishioners. The purpose is simple: to provide parishioners throughout the church with an opportunity to receive Holy Communion from the priest, regardless of where they are seated. By occasionally rotating locations, those seated on the left, center, and right sides of the church will have greater access to the priest's Communion station.

At the same time, we will continue our long-standing practice of bringing Holy Communion first to those who are elderly, homebound within the church, disabled, or otherwise have difficulty coming forward for Communion. This important ministry reflects the compassion of Christ and our commitment to caring for every member of our parish family. We want all our brothers and sisters to experience the dignity, respect, and welcome that belong to them as members of the Body of Christ.

This adjustment is not intended to place greater importance on one minister over another. Our Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion continue to serve faithfully and generously, and we remain deeply grateful for their ministry. Rather, this change is intended to foster a greater sense of connection.

MASS LINEN MINISTRY: A Hidden Ministry of Reverence

The sacred linens used at Mass hold a special place in the Church's worship and are treated with great care and respect. Our Mass Linen Ministry serves by washing and preparing corporals, purificators, hand linens, and other altar linens used in the celebration of the Eucharist.



This quiet ministry is currently carried out by two faithful volunteers, and we are hoping to welcome 2-3 more members to the team. Volunteers take the linens home and hand-wash them once or twice a month

according to simple guidelines.

If you feel called to serve in a prayerful and behind-the-scenes way, this ministry offers a beautiful opportunity to contribute to the sacred liturgy. For more information, please contact Father Michael, Father Joseph, or the Parish Office at 856 767 2563. We would be grateful to welcome you to this important ministry of service and devotion.

PARISH SCHOLARSHIP FUND

The Church has always recognized Catholic education as a powerful way to form young people in faith, character, and service. I invite you to prayerfully consider supporting our **Parish Scholarship Fund**, which helps deserving students attend Catholic Elementary and High School. Your generosity can open the door to a faith-filled education for families in need and become a lasting investment in the future of our Church. Thank you for helping our young people grow in wisdom, faith, and love of Christ.

Helping Deserving Students Attend Catholic Elementary and High School

Yes, I would like to support the Parish Scholarship Fund.

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone Number: _____

Email: _____

Donation Amount: \$ _____

☐ \$25 ☐ \$50 ☐ \$100 ☐ \$250 ☐ Other:

☐ I would like my gift to remain anonymous.

Please make checks payable to: Saint Simon Stock Parish, and under Memo Line: Scholarship Fund

"Whoever welcomes one such child in my name welcomes me." (Mt 18:5)

Thank you for your generosity in helping provide a Catholic education for deserving students. May God bless you and your family always!



STEWARDSHIP OF COMMUNITY

Harvest Festival

Volunteers are needed to help at **this year's Harvest Festival on September 12th**, for setting up, breaking down and working during the event. Please call the Parish Office to join in the fun. Thank you!

Chair Marie DiStefano



**2026 Harvest Festival
September 12, 2026**



We are currently seeking sponsors to help offset costs, as well as donations of gift baskets, baked goods and, most importantly, **volunteers**. Please contact the Parish Office.

ANNUAL HARVEST FESTIVAL Seeking Sponsors

Platinum	\$1000
Gold	\$ 750
Silver	\$ 500
Bronze	\$ 250
General Sponsorship	\$ 100

Name: _____

Name on Sign: _____

Sponsorship Level: _____ \$ _____

Please complete and return with your check made payable to *St. Simon Stock Parish*, 178 W. White Horse Pike, Berlin, NJ 08009 or drop off at the Parish Office.

Thank you for your support!
St. Simon Stock Pastoral Council



SEPTEMBER 12, 2026 BASKET AUCTION

The Basket Auction is always a great success and a lot of fun! If you are interested in donating an auction basket please drop them off at the office **by September 4th**.

Please follow these guidelines:

All items included **MUST BE NEW**.

Baskets or other creative containers are to be wrapped in some type of clear covering so the items can be seen.

If possible, give your basket a creative name.

Attach the donor or donors' names to the basket.

Ticket Pre-Sale held after all masses on Sept. 5/6, 2026.
THANK YOU!



If you would like to donate baked goods for the Harvest Festival contact:
Marge Worthmann

Email: mvw139@comcast.net or call the parish office.

STEWARDSHIP OF COMMUNITY AND EDUCATION

SICK AND HOMEBOUND

John Agyemang	Marilyn Kent
Julia Alessandrino	Patricia Knott
Robert Andreotta	Gary Koopman
Ted & Therese Baker	Kamal Leahy
Rosemarie Berekia	Michael Liberatore
Paul Bilbrough	John Manes Sr.
Gladys Blaese	Ed & Sandy Markiewicz
Michelle Blaese	Philip Marzili
Patti Boone	Janis Mayer
Rosalie Bowman	Connie McCusker
Kevin Brady	Mary McElroy
MaryBeth Bravman	Adele Miller
Baby Savannah Britt	Agnes Moore
Irene Browne	Sister Marie Moore, IHM
Joe & Terry Bruno	Margie & Walter Moronski
Loretta Bunoza	Chris Morrison
Betty Butler	Francesco (Frankie) Nero
Carole Anne Conner	Marie Niceto
Benjamin Cuifolo	Glenn Plisczak
Terry Cunningham	Barbara Pohar
Carol Defoney	Bobby Ricci
Bernadette DeFilippis	Jason Roberts
Concetta DiFrancisco	Tony Romeo
Charles Dowd	Nora Sauers
Jean Ervin/Smith	Gale Schofield
Janet Flood	Mike & Pat Schofield
Gene Golluscio	Larry Schwanzer
Joan Hagge	Lori Singley
Richard Herlihy, FSC	Alejandra Talucci
Matthew Hernan	Kay Tedesco
Kim Hertzberg	Trinna Tindle
Jodi Herzig	Penny Tresca
Elayne Hill	John F. Vece
Teresa Hiteshew	Carol Walter
Jo Niece Holbig	John Werner
Giana Iannuzzi	Grace Wisniewski
Bea Jackson	Joseph Wisniewski
Janice Judge	Lisa Wisniewski

Note: To add or remove a name from the Sick and Homebound list, please call the Parish Office. Permission must be obtained to print someone's name. Please let us know if a person listed has recovered from sickness. Thank you

Respect Life Ministry



"The unborn child is a human being—it should be treated with respect and love."

Alveda King (niece of Dr. Martin Luther King)

Each unborn child represents potential, love, and possibilities. When we collectively embrace this mindset, we create a culture that honors life at every stage, paving the way for a brighter future for all. Our love and respect for the unborn sparks change that resonates throughout society.

Our Lady of Mt. Carmel Regional School



With the last few weeks of August ahead and the start of a new school year quickly approaching, it's time to start thinking about school. Please consider Our Lady of Mt. Carmel School for your child or grandchild. Entering its 70th year, OLMC is a community of tradition, where the values of service and responsibility are taught from day one as students are prepared to become members of our Catholic family. Students enjoy a 12:1 student/teacher ratio, and are the beneficiaries of coursework which still includes art, music, library skills, physical education and technology education.

Summer office hours at OLMC School continue until August 27. The school office will be open Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays from 9 - noon during that period. Registration for the 2026-27 school year will continue through the summer months. If you would like to learn more about the benefits of a Mt. Carmel education, please contact Principal Alice Malloy (amalloy@olmc-school.org) or Advancement Director Mande DeHaven (adehaven@olmc-school.org) at Our Lady of Mt. Carmel School for more information.

O.C.I.A. News

The Order of Christian Initiation of Adults (OCIA) will be hosting several information nights for anyone interested in becoming Catholic or completing their Sacraments of Initiation, Holy Communion and Confirmation and anyone else who wishes to learn more about their faith in the Parish Life Center at **6:30 pm on August 25th**. All are welcome. Contact Deacon Bob at Deaconbob@stsimonstock.net.

Registration for the 2026-2027 School Year Faith Formation for Children (Religious Education)

Faith Formation Registration is now open for the upcoming school year for 1st through 8th grades. Classes begin on **Monday, September 28th** or **Wednesday, September 30th**. Please register online at www.stsimonstock.net. Click on the Faith Formation tab and scroll down to the Registration Form link.

For onsite classes, you can choose Monday (5:00 to 6:00 PM) **or** Wednesday (6:00 to 7:00 PM). Classes will be filled on a first-come, first-served basis. Register early to ensure you get the night you prefer. Below the registration link you will find links for the schedules for onsite and home schooling. Students must attend in person for preparation/sacramental years: Grades 1, 2, 7, and 8. Children may be home schooled for grades 3, 4, 5, and 6.

Please consider teaching or assisting our students next year. Those who volunteer to help our Faith Formation program receive **FREE** tuition for their family.

Contact Mrs. Mary Spicer, 856-767-2563 x 314 or mary@stsimonstock.net with questions or to volunteer.
Thank you!

STEWARDSHIP OF WORSHIP AND COMMUNITY

MATCHING GIFT OPPORTUNITY FOR THE CHURCH VESTIBULE EXPANSION PROJECT

Thanks to the incredible generosity of our parish family, we successfully exceeded our previous **\$60,000 Matching Gift Opportunity**. We are deeply grateful to everyone who helped make this possible.

We are now blessed with a new **Matching Gift Opportunity of up to \$100,000**, with every dollar donated matched dollar for dollar through **November 30, 2026**.

Your gift will help us create a more welcoming and prayerful church through the construction of:

- A new vestibule (foyer)
- A chapel for prayer and adoration
- A priests' sacristy
- An altar servers' room
- A handicapped-accessible confessional

Please prayerfully consider participating in this opportunity to double the impact of your gift and help bring this vision to fruition.

Thank you for your prayers, generosity, and continued support of our parish. May God bless you and your family abundantly.



CHURCH VESTIBULE PROJECT DONATION FORM

Name: _____

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Email: _____

Donation Amount: \$ _____

☐ Check Enclosed

☐ Please contact me regarding an additional gift or pledge.

Make checks payable to: Saint Simon Stock Parish

Memo: Vestibule Project Matching Gift

Thank you for helping us reach our goal. Every gift received by **November 30, 2026**, will be matched dollar for dollar, up to **\$100,000**.



Diocesan Training

Extraordinary Minister of Holy Communion

Saturday, August 29, 2026, 8 am to 12 pm

Our Lady of Sorrows Parish Hall

724 Maple Avenue, Linwood, NJ

Lector

Tuesday, September 15, 2026, 6:30-8:30 pm Zoom **plus**

Wednesday, September 23, 2026, 6:30-8:30 pm

St. Mary Parish, 2001 Springdale Rd., Cherry Hill, NJ, **or**

Thursday, September 24, 2026, 6:30-8:30 pm

Notre Dame de La Mer Parish

St. Ann Church, 2901 Atlantic Ave., Wildwood, NJ

Please call the Parish Office for an Application

Stewardship of Treasure

August 15, 2026

Sunday Collections \$10,876.00

Electronic Giving \$2,406.80

Total \$14,092.80

If you do not attend Mass in-person, please mail in your weekly envelopes to the office, or consider signing up for online donations with Parish Giving. Please note that all checks should be made payable to St. Simon Stock Parish, including those for any special diocesan collections. There is no need to scotch tape envelopes closed.

Mass Attendance 810

Envelopes Used 241

Electronic Contributors 69

Thank you for your generosity.

Society of St. Vincent De Paul

St. Simon Stock Conference

157 West White Horse Pike, Berlin, NJ 08009

Food Pantry Distribution:

1st & 3rd Tuesdays, 11 am–2:30 pm

Thrift Store Open: Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays

10 am – 3 pm; Saturdays 10 am – 1 pm

Store Donations Accepted On Days The Store Is Open Up To ½ Hour Before Closing. Phone Assistance Services at 856-767-7391 available On Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays from 11 am – 2:30 pm. At other times, if you need immediate assistance, **dial 211**, the NJ State Help Line.

The Kingdom and Salvation Are For All People

The Gospel today announces that the kingdom and salvation are for all people. It is our persistent calling out to Jesus and our faith that count, for Jesus always responds.

Your gift to the Society of St. Vincent de Paul placed in our Poor Box is a way of helping us to be Jesus' hands in responding to the needs of our neighbors in need.

"Whatever you did for one of the least brothers of mine, you did for me." Matthew 25:40

PARISH INFORMATION

Saint Simon Stock Parish Information

Saint Simon Stock Parish is under the pastoral care of the Religious Institute of the *Alagad ni Maria* (Disciples of Mary).

Parish Office Hours

Monday to Friday 9:00 am – 4:00 pm

Pastoral Council

Rev. Michael A. de Leon, AM, Moderator,

Sarah Tyrseck, *President*; Lisa DiGiovanni, *Vice President*;

Ann Matthew, *Secretary*, Bill Bansch, *elected member*; Marie DiStefano, *elected member*

Tina Longo, *elected member*; Mary Gregory, *elected member*, Stan Quammen, *elected member*; and Rose Alapatt, *elected member*.

Ex-Officio: Fr. Joseph Ciar, Parochial Vicar, Deacon Bob Iuliucci, Parish Trustees Alice Malloy, Principal OLMC Regional School,

Suzanne Brodzik, Finance Council Chair, Parish Ministries Leaders,

The Parish Council meets the first Tuesday of the month at 7:00 pm (Except Easter month, August, and December). Any parishioner is welcome to attend.

Finance Council

Christopher Green, *Chairman*; Andrew Aquino, *Secretary*; Members: Nick DiGianivittorio, Jamie Hannigan, Lisa Frattali, Pete Worthmann

Parish Trustees: Margaret Worthmann and Martin Durney, Ph.D.

Parish Ministries

STEWARDSHIP OF WORSHIP AND LITURGY

Altar Rosary Society – Loretta Bunoza – 856 767 2563

Altar Server Ministry – Rev. Joseph Ciar, AM FatherJoseph@StSimonStock.net

Art & Environment – Father Joseph & Sally Villa – 856 767 2563

Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion (EMHC) – Bonnie Piontkowski bpiont25@comcast.net

Lector Ministry (Adult & Youth) – Bonnie Piontkowski bpiont25@comcast.net

Legion of Mary – Fr. Joseph Ciar, AM, Spiritual Director – 856 767 2563

Mass Linen Ministry – Marie DiStefano – 856 767 2563

Music – Adult Choir - Liz Williams - Liz@StSimonStock.net

Music – Youth Choir (Christmas and Easter) – Cindy Tedesco cynthiatedesco12@gmail.com

Music – Contemporary Ensemble - Rich Galassini – Rich@cunninghampiano.com

Sacristan Ministry – Seven Sisters Apostolate – 856 767 2563

Streaming Ministry – Cindy Johnson & Liz Williams – 856 767 2563

Ushers & Greeters – Men of the Church – 856 767 2563

STEWARDSHIP OF EDUCATION AND FORMATION

Bible Study – Clergy – 856 767 2563

Faith Formation for children (Religious Education) – Mary Spicer Mary@StSimonStock.net

Lifelong Faith Formation for adults & families – Clergy – 856 767 2563 (office)

Man-Up (Spirituality for Men) – Deacon Michael Vitarelli – DeaconMichael@StSimonStock.net 856 767 2563

Marriage Prep/ Pre-Cana Ministry – George & Janet Ralston – 856 767 2563

Order of Christian Initiation for Adults (formerly RCIA) – Deacon Bob Iuliucci - DeaconBob@StSimonStock.net

Palm Braiding – Cindy Johnson – 856 767 2563

Spiritual enrichment through Media Ministry (The Chosen TV Series) – Mike & Lisa DiGiovanni – 856 767 2563

Women's Book Club – Sarah Tryseck – sarahtyrseck@gmail.com

STEWARDSHIP OF SERVICE AND COMPASSION

Bereavement and Grief Ministry – Agatha Cullin, Brian Fruit, Bonnie Piontkowski – 856 767 2563

Blanket Ministry – Gail Grabowski – 856 767 2563 (office)

Communion to the Sick & Homebound Ministry – Father Joseph Ciar, A.M. - Office@StSimonStock.net

Funeral Planning & Consolation Ministry – Marge Worthmann, Marie DiStefano, Eileen Iuliucci, Bill Bansch

Knights of Columbus Archangel Council – Grand Knight James Pacifico

Military-Veterans Ministry – Jim Gillespie & Nikki McNamara – 856 767 2563

Ministry for the Deaf & Persons with Disability - (**soon** – If interested, please call the office) – 856 767 2563

Parish Nursing Healthcare Ministry – Tousha Bailey, MSN-Ed, RN - 856 767 2563

Prayer Chain – Pastoral Council – 856 767 2563

Prayer & Yoga – Sue Markiewicz – Office@StSimonStock.net

Reach-out Ministry – Bernie Durney - 856 767 2563 (office)

Respect Life Ministry – Lois Dark – RespectLife@StSimonStock.net

Saint Joseph the Worker *Ora et Labora* Ministry (SJWOLM) – Bill Bansch & Pete Worthmann - 856 767 2563

Saint Vincent de Paul Society – Mary Spicer – 856 767 7391

Senior Ministry - Jennifer Smith – Jennifer@StSimonStock.net and Carmela Covone – Carmela@StSimonStock.net

Seven Sisters Apostolate (SSA) – Rosemarie Manes – 856 767 2563

Social Community Gathering Ministry (Parish Bakers) – Marge Worthmann – 856 767 2563

Stephen Ministry – Rich & Sharon Galassini – StephenMinistry@StSimonStock.net

STEWARDSHIP OF HEALTHCARE AND SAFETY

Healthcare Ministry – Tousha Bailey, MSN-Ed, RN – 856 767 2563

Safety Ministry – Brian Fruit & Jeremiah McNamara – Office@StSimonStock.net

STEWARDSHIP OF YOUTH AND YOUNG ADULT MINISTRY

Young Adult Ministry (Disciples of Mary Young Adult Ministry) – (**new**) – Ann Mathew – Office@StSimonStock.net

Youth Group/Ministry (Disciples of Mary Youth Ministry) – Nikki McNamara, Susan Taylor, and Janelle Byrd - YouthMinistry@StSimonStock.net

Let's warmly
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Pete Worthmann
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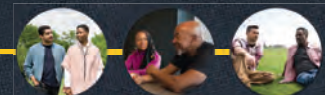
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