

ST. JOSEPH CHURCH
Millstone Township, New Jersey

Advent

JOURNEY TOWARD HOPE

FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

November 29, 2015



91 Stillhouse Road
Millstone Twp, NJ 08510
732-792-2270
www.stjosephmillstone.org

Some thoughts from Fr. Mike...

Dear Friends,

The first Sunday of Advent is now upon us again. With it, we usher in a new year in the Church. The season has a two-fold character, it is preparation for celebrating Christ's birth and a reminder of his second coming in glory at the end of time. When Jesus was born, his arrival went unnoticed except for the faithful few who were prayerfully waiting for the coming of the Messiah. They had read the signs of the times correctly. Our readings contain some important pointers that warn us to be ready and prepared for the second coming of the Lord. No matter what else happens to us in our world, one fact remains unchanged and relevant – all roads in life lead to the Day of the Lord. During this time that leads to the celebration of Christmas we can benefit greatly from giving some real thought to who we are, what we are doing with our lives and how are we approaching the one great test that matters – our personal meeting with the Lord on judgment day. We are the masters of our destiny and that destiny depends a great deal on how we live at this point in our journey.

As a pilgrim people, what we celebrate in the Eucharist is Christ's presence among us now until He comes in glory. Each time we prepare to receive the gift of the Eucharist, we also have the opportunity to evaluate the way that we welcome Jesus into our hearts. Advent gives us the chance to improve our lives and increase the depth of sincerity we have for the practice of our faith including prayer and works of mercy.

Advent provides an opportunity to look at our lives and discern what needs to put right, to acknowledge our short-comings and to evaluate the ways we can do it better. If prayer has not been given a priority, now is a chance to begin all over again. Whatever our past has been, God is only too willing to look lovingly on us in the hope that we will be transformed by God's mercy. God's arms are always outstretched to welcome us. Advent is also a time to strengthen our friendship with God by thinking about God's tremendous love demonstrated in the gift of Jesus as our Savior. Advent is the time to allow Jesus to become our driving force. Peace and prayers,

Fr. Mike

Mass Schedule + Readings

Saturday	November- 28	Weekday
	(Dn 7:15-27 Lk 21:34-36)	
5:00pm	<i>Frank Ceslowski</i>	r/b Linda Detwiler
Sunday	November- 29	1st Sunday of Advent
	(Jer 33:14-16 1 Thes 3:12–4:2 Lk 21:25-28 34-36)	
9:00am	<i>Beatrice Teiter</i>	r/b Her Niece & Family
11:00am	<i>Ralph J. Caquetta</i>	r/b The Gilch Family
Monday	November- 30	St Andrew
	(Rom 10:9-18 Mt 4:18-22)	
9:00am	<i>Edward A. Mildner</i>	r/b The Mildner Family
Tuesday	December- 1	Advent Weekday
	(Is 11: 1-10 Lk 10:21-24)	
9:00am	<i>Peter Reilly</i>	r/b Frances DeRosa
Wednesday	December- 2	Advent Weekday
	(Is 25:6-10a Mt 15:29-37)	
9:00am	<i>Carol Becker</i>	r/b The Hileman Family
Thursday	December- 3	St Francis Xavier
	(Is 26:1-6 Mt 7:21, 24-27)	
	NO MASS	
Friday	December- 4	St John Damascene
	(Is 29:17-24 Mt 9:27-31)	
9:00am	<i>Barney DiBenedetto</i>	r/b Brian Schubel
Saturday	December- 5	Advent Weekday
	(Is 30:19-21, 23-26 Mt 9:35–10:1, 5a, 6-8)	
5:00pm	<i>Anna Morin</i>	r/b Her Family
Sunday	December- 6	2nd Sunday of Advent
	(Bar 5:1-9 Phil 1:4-6, 8-11 Lk 3:1-6)	
9:00am	<i>Angelina & Michael Canerino</i>	r/b The Family
11:00am	<i>Theresa Fiorino</i>	r/b Fiorino & Laucik Families



Sanctuary Candle... this week

Celia Bonilla r/b Daughter Frances

To dedicate a Sanctuary Candle in memory of or for the intention of a loved one, Please call the office @ 732-792-2270. The donation is \$10.00.

Prayer Chain Contacts:

Patty Hileman 732-446-7651
Mary Costagliola 732-446-4255

Please Keep in your prayers:

The Sick and Lonely, the safe return of our service men & women and for vocations to the priesthood and religious life.

STEWARDSHIP CORNER...

Being thankful takes more than words – it requires action that shows we have been blessed.

STEWARDSHIP OF TREASURE REPORT

**November 22nd DUE TO THAKSGIVING
THIS BULLETIN WENT TO PRINTER
BEFORE 11/22. STEWARDSHIP REPORT
WILL BE GIVEN NEXT WEEK**

*Thank you for your generosity and
may God bless you for your support!*

What's Happening In The Parish...

COMMUNION SERVICE DURING ADVENT

Are you on the road early each morning? Do you have to get the kids off to school? On Mondays and Fridays of Advent, beginning November 30, will be Communion Service on at 6:45am. The service is less than 25 minutes and includes the day's readings, proclamation of the Gospel, a short reflection, plus the opportunity to receive Communion. The time is especially ideal for commuters, parents/guardians who need to get the kids off to school - any early risers! Come start your day with Jesus!

LADIES OF ST. JOSEPH



The Ladies of St. Joseph Will hold their monthly meeting this

Tuesday, December 1 - 7:00 PM

at the home of Kim (12 Young Terrace - Millstone Twp). - Please note change in time and location. We invite all women of the Parish to come and be a part of our Parish women's group. Getting involved in our group is a great way to become active in the parish and meet other women of the parish. Come and find out how you can help with our many parish activities. For more information about the Ladies of St. Joseph contact Jo Ann at jokronenthal@verizon.net or 732-446-4326.

GIVING TREE



If you have taken a tag from the Giving Tree, please be sure to return the item (with the tag attached) unwrapped by the date specified on the tag. If you did not get a tag but would like to participate, gift cards are always welcome. The extra gift cards are used for those last minute requests for help. If you purchase extra gift cards, please be sure to mark it in some way as "extra" so we know where it belongs. Thanks for your support.

50-50 RAFFLE TICKETS



The drawing date for the 50-50 raffle sponsored by the Men's Guild is December 13 so please be sure to return your chances prior to that date. If you did not receive your chances in the mail or if you need additional raffle tickets, please stop by the Parish Office or see a Men's Guild member after Mass. The more who take a chance, the bigger the prize!

LECTOR WORKBOOKS

Lectors can pick up the new workbooks for the coming year in the Sacristy.

PARISH CHRISTMAS PARTY



Come and Join us on Sunday, December 13th after the 11:00AM Mass for our Annual Parish Christmas Party. There will be food, fun, entertainment and more. There will even be a visit from that very special Christmas Person who likes to check on the children to see who has been naughty and who has been nice. There is no cost as this is sponsored by the Men's Guild. See you at the party!

FOOD COLLECTION



Please remember that our food collections are held on the 1st and 3rd weekends of each month. The next food collection will be on December 5/6. Food items including frozen foods, paper goods and toiletries are very much appreciated.

Thanks for your generosity and support.

ADVENT WREATH

Don't forget to sign up to help out with our Advent Wreath candle lighting. Sign up lists are in the vestibule.

ADVENT SERIES

THERE IS A HERO INSIDE OF YOU WAITING TO GET OUT!

Join us on December 2, 9 & 16 at 7:00PM as we use some of the figures from the Old Testament who are considered heroes. Why do we consider them to be heroes? What did they do to be elected to *God's Hall of Faith*? What do they have to tell us about ourselves. Come and

join us to find out if there is a hero inside of you!

Maybe you will never get into one of the earthly Halls of Fame, but are you a candidate for God's Hall of Faith? Come and find out!



A Festival of Lessons & Carols



Performed by the St Joseph Children's/Youth Choirs, Cantors, Guest Singers/Musicians and Lectors. Open your heart and mind to the

TRUE wonder of the Advent/Christmas season with profound reflections and inspirational music on Friday, December 11, at 7:30pm. A free will offering will be collected at the Door (Suggested Donation—\$5.00 per person). Hot Cocoa, Cider & Light Dessert offered in the Parish Hall Immediately Following

BAPTISM PREPARATION SESSIONS



Parents who will have a child baptized must attend a Baptism Preparation session. Sponsors (Godparents) are invited to attend. The next session will take place on Friday, December 4th at 7:00pm. If you will be participating in the preparation session please contact the Parish Office to register. For questions about Baptismal Preparation please contact the Parish Office.

COORDINATORS NEEDED

Now that we are committing ourselves to participate in the Freehold Clergy Association Emergency Housing Program, we are in need of volunteers to serve as Coordinators. We still need 1 or 2 people to be the overall coordinator for the parish. We also need one person to serve as coordinator for the volunteers who will be staying with the homeless. If you would like to volunteer, or find out more information about the responsibilities of coordinators, please contact Fr. Mike.

HELP WITH HOMELESS PROGRAM

Thank you to everyone who has signed up to help with the Homeless program. We have enough people to commit to participating in the program. We are committing to shelter up to 12 homeless men from December through March. We can use more volunteers. You can volunteer to drive some of the participants on Sunday evening at 6:30PM from Freehold to our Parish. Or, you can volunteer to drive some of the participants from our parish back to Freehold at 6:30AM on Monday morning. Or, you can volunteer to stay with the homeless in the parish either from 6:30PM to Midnight or Midnight to 6:30AM on Sunday evening. We will be feeding the participants and those staying with them on Sunday evening. We will also be providing a simple breakfast (bagels, cereal, juice, fruit, coffee) on Monday morning. Schedules will be made up for the various volunteer positions, so watch for the information in emails or regular mail. Thanks again for volunteering and making this possible.

BUILDING AND GROUNDS COMMITTEE



The Building and Grounds Committee will be meeting on Monday – December 7 at 7:00 PM. Any parishioner is welcome to come to meeting to find out more about how this committee works to keep our buildings and grounds in top shape. For more information about the Building and Grounds Committee contact Tom P. at tom@tlpclimatecontrol.com or Tom B. at tbaber@moneymailer.com.

MUSIC MINISTRY



COME AND JOIN ONE OF THE CHOIRS! Please think about joining one of the choirs.

The **Children's Choir** is for those ages 6 1/2 – 10 – they will be meeting at 5:15PM.

The **Contemporary Choir** is for those ages 11 and above – they will meet at 6:00PM.

The **St. Joseph Choir** is for adults and will meet at 7:00PM.

You do not have to be able to read music or feel that you have the best voice to be part of choir.

When voices come together to praise God, it is always a beautiful sound. For information about the **Children's Choir**, the **Contemporary Choir**, **St. Joseph Choir** or **Cantors** contact Kristine at Kris0373@aol.com or 973-768-4184.

MEN'S GUILD



The Men's Guild will hold their monthly meeting on **MONDAY, DECEMBER 7 at 8:00 PM (PLEASE**

NOTE CHANGE IN DAY AND TIME FOR THIS MEETING ONLY) in the Parish Hall. All men of the Parish are invited to come and be a part of our Parish men's group. We look forward to hearing your ideas for activities and your help with the activities we currently offer. It's also a great way to meet other men of the parish and to feel even more connected to your parish. For more information about the Men's Guild contact Dave dcerulo@hess.com or 732-792-1838

Check out our new offering on the website for parishioners who are looking for something. (Sell a car, rent a house, etc.)
<http://www.stjosephmillstone.org/themarketplace>

STAY CONNECTED – "like us" on facebook at St. Joseph Catholic Church Millstone Twp, NJ or check out our web site www.stjosephmillstone.org or follow on Twitter @frmikestjoseph.

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An easy and convenient way to donate is through online Parish Giving. This is offered free of charge to you so that you may make donations by credit card or transfer from your checking account. Check it out at WWW.stjosephmillstone.org and click on "Contribute/Donate" then click on the link for **Electronic Giving**. You can then set up an account or choose a onetime donation without an account. If you have any questions about this, please feel free to contact the Parish Office.

→ Calendar of Events ←

Nov 30	6:45AM – Communion Service
Dec 1	7:00PM – Ladies of St. Joseph Meeting (at home of Kim Kocur)
Dec 2	7:00PM – Advent Series – Heroes!
Dec 3	5:15PM – Children's Choir Practice 6:00PM – Contemporary Choir Practice 7:00PM – St. Joseph Choir Practice
Dec 4	6:45AM – Communion Service 7:00PM – Baptism Prep
Dec 6	Parish Food Collection 10:30AM – RCIA 12:30PM – Baptisms
Dec 7	7:00PM – Building & Grounds Committee 8:00PM – Men's Guild Meeting
Dec 8	Immaculate Conception Parish Office Closed No Religious Education Classes 9:00AM – Mass 7:00PM - Mass
Dec 9	10:00AM – Prayer Shawl Ministry 7:00PM – Advent Series – Heroes!
Dec 11	7:30PM - Lessons & Carols
Dec 13	Giving Tree Gifts Due 12:00Noon – Parish Christmas Party
Dec 16	7:00PM – Advent Series – Heroes!
Dec 24	4:00PM – Christmas Eve Mass 6:30PM – Christmas Eve Mass
Dec 25	12:00AM – Midnight Mass 9:00AM – Christmas Mass 11:00AM – Christmas Mass

Let us praise God in all we do.

PARISH INFORMATION

Parish Office: 732-792-2270

Office Hours: Mon-Fri 9:30AM - 2:30PM

Mailing Address: 91 Stillhouse Road

Millstone Twp, NJ 08510

WWW.STJOSEPHMILLSTONE.ORG

PARISH STAFF	MASS TIMES
<i>Rev. Michael P. Lang - Pastor</i> frmikestjoseph@optonline.net	Saturday Evening - 5:00 PM
<i>Rev. Rembert Reilly, O.S.B - Weekend Assistant</i>	Sunday Morning - 9:00 AM & 11:00 AM
<i>Rob Folinus - Permanent Deacon</i> Robstjoseph@optonline.net	Mon, Tues, Wed & Fri - 9:00AM
<i>Chris Chandonnet, Permanent Deacon</i> Chrisstjoseph@optonline.net	Holy Days: as listed in the bulletin
<i>Carol Schulz, Pastoral Associate</i> CSchulzstjoseph@optonline.net	Confessions: After the 5:00 PM Mass on Saturday or by appointment.
<i>Jean Semanchick, Parish Secretary & Coordinator of Religious Education</i> Jeanstjoseph@optonline.net	
<i>Kristine Reide, Music Ministry Leader</i> Kris0373@aol.com	

BAPTISM – The Sacrament of Baptism is normally celebrated on the 1st and 3rd Sunday of the month at 12:30 PM. Parents are asked to register for a Baptism Preparation Session prior to the Baptism. Baptisms must be scheduled in advance by calling the Parish Office. Sponsors must obtain Sponsor forms from their home parish – Sponsors must be active practicing Catholics. The Sacrament of Baptism is not celebrated during the Season of Lent.

Marriage – Diocesan policy requires that arrangements for Marriage be made one (1) year in advance of the wedding. Refer any questions to the Pastor.

Sick Calls – Please contact the Parish Office when someone is seriously ill requiring a visit by a Priest. If someone is unable to attend Mass on a regular basis and would like to receive Communion please call the Parish Office

Registration – We are glad you are here and want you to feel like a full member of the parish. Registering as a parishioner helps us to know who you are and to stay in touch. Registration is required for sponsor forms.

Sponsor Certificates – This is a form required to be a Godparent or Sponsor for Confirmation. To receive a form the following is required: -Be a registered, active (attends Mass) member of the parish (for at least 6 months); be at least 16 years of age; must have completed the Sacraments of Baptism, Eucharist and Confirmation; If married, have a valid marriage within the Church.