

FEBRUARY 26, 2017 8th SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME



St. Joseph

Catholic Church

*A community
of faith
growing in
God's love*

91 Stillhouse Rd., Millstone Twp., NJ 08510 732-792-2270

Who Do you
SERVE?

*You must choose!
You cannot serve two masters!
Will you choose God or...*

MASS

Sat. 5:00PM

Sun. 9:00AM & 11:00AM

Mon. 9:00AM

Tues. 9:00AM

Wed. 9:00AM

Fri. 9:00AM

Holy Days—check bulletin

SERVED BY

Rev. Michael P. Lang, Pastor

frmlkestjoseph@optonline.net

Robert Follnus, Deacon

robstjoseph@optonline.net

Chris Chandonnet, Deacon

chrisstjoseph@optonline.net

Carol Schulz

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Genevieve Semanchick

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CONNECT

Fax: 732-792-2271

Online:

www.stjosephmillstone.org

Facebook:

@stjosephchurchmillstone

Twitter:

@frmlkestjoseph

Some thoughts from Fr. Mike...

Dear Friends,

This Wednesday is Ash Wednesday and is the start of the Season of Lent. We gather together to be marked with the sign of the Cross with ashes as a reminder that we need to be a people who allow the gift of the Cross to lift us up to new life. Of course, this means that we first have to recognize and believe that we need to be lifted up.

The human condition is such that no one is perfect. As human beings, we have weaknesses, flaws, imperfections and characteristics and behaviors that can prevent us from experiencing the fullness of God's love for us. For the vast majority of people these flaws, imperfections and weaknesses are things that have crept into our lives over time – they are simply bad habits. Too much television or video games; thinking only about self-pleasure and not the welfare or needs of others; too many sweets, baked goods, or the foods that simply have little benefit for us; driving too fast, erratically or while preoccupied with the other things of life; procrastinating; avoiding; lying; stealing; cheating; tattling; gossiping – are all things that we learn to do and permit to invade our lives. Not one of those things can make us happy, help us to become the best possible version of ourselves or help us to grow closer to God. The first step in changing such bad habits is the admission that we have the bad habit and that we need to be lifted up – we need change. Once we admit it, we need a plan that will bring about change. To say, "I simply will stop doing it," is almost always going to lead us to the path of failure. Instead, we have to recognize that we spend years getting good at a bad habit – and may have to work and struggle for some time to change it.

Why should we want to change? Eventually bad habits control us. The habit becomes the master of our life. We end up serving the habit and relinquish control. The Gospel passage for this weekend tells us that we cannot serve two masters – and indeed we cannot. Lent becomes the perfect time to begin the process of being lifted up from some of the bad habits of life. Lent calls us to make a choice – will we serve God, or someone (something) else? As always, it is our choice.

Have a blessed week,

Fr. Mike

Mass Schedule + Readings

Saturday	February- 25 <i>Weekday</i> (Sir 17:1-15 Mk 10:13-16) 5:00pm <i>Joseph Frammarino</i> r/b Rosalie Fortunato
Sunday	February- 26 8th Sunday in Ordinary Time (Is 49:14-15 1 Cor 4:1-5 Mt 6:24-34) 9:00am <i>Frank Kovacs</i> r/b The Gellman family 11:00am <i>John Simon</i> r/b The Craig Family
Monday	February- 27 <i>Weekday</i> (Sir 17:20-24 Mk 10:17-27) <i>Orlando Moschella</i> r/b John & Jeanine McKee
Tuesday	February- 28 <i>Weekday</i> (Sir 35:1-12 Mk 10:28-31) 9:00am <i>For the People of the Parish</i>
Wednesday	March- 1 Ash Wednesday (Jl 2:12-18 2 Cor 5:20—6:2 Mt 6:1-6, 16-18) 9:00am <i>Anna Distefano</i> r/b The Sawicz Family 5:00pm <i>James Malmos</i> r/b The Hill Family 7:00pm <i>Joseph Frammarino</i> r/b The Ladies of St Joseph
Thursday	March- 2 <i>Weekday</i> (Dt 30:15-20 Lk 9:22-25) <u>No Mass</u>
Friday	March- 3 <i>St Katherine Drexel</i> (Is 58:1-9a/Mt 9: 14-15) 9:00am <i>Ultan Kerrigan</i> r/b Liam & Ning Schubel
Saturday	March- 4 <i>Weekday</i> (Is 58:9b-14 Lk 5:27-32) 5:00pm <i>John Cerulo Sr.</i> r/b His Family
Sunday	March- 5 1st Sunday of Lent (Gn 2:7-9; 3:1-7 Rom 5:12-19 or 5:12, 17-19 Mt 4:1-11) 9:00am <i>John Ricigliano</i> r/b The Tkachuk Family 11:00am <i>Fred Hepp</i> r/b Hennessy Family



Sanctuary Candle... this week

Ultan Kerrigan r/b His Family

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

STEWARDSHIP CORNER...

Making the choice to serve God will free us from slavery to many things that seek to control us.

STEWARDSHIP OF TREASURE REPORT

February 19th – \$ 6,075.00

Debt Reduction - \$ 199.00

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

MARDI GRAS



Come and join us for our annual potluck/covered dish Mardi Gras celebration on Tuesday, February 28 at 6:00 pm. Bring your favorite main course or side dish, salad, or dessert to share. Beverages will be provided. If you plan to come, please sign up on the list that can be found on the table at the entrance of the church. Dinner will be followed by a prayer service at 7:30 pm to usher in the season of Lent. **See you at Mardi Gras!**

ASH WEDNESDAY

This Wednesday, March 1 is Ash Wednesday. This will mark the beginning of the Season of Lent. Mass will be celebrated on Ash Wednesday at 9:00AM, 5:00PM and 7:00PM. The imposition of ashes will take place at each Mass. We gather to hear God's Word, be nourished by the Eucharist and to have the mark of ashes placed on us as a sign that we are prepared to enter a time of repentance and renewal. May we be prepared to grow closer to God by opening ourselves to God's ways.

ALTAR SERVER TRAINING

A training for new Altar Servers is scheduled for Saturday, March 18 at 11:00AM. Anyone in grade 4 and above is welcome to become an Altar Server. It is a great way to help out at Mass. There is a sign-up list on the table at the entrance of the Church. Please sign up if you plan to attend the training so that we are sure to have materials for everyone. Hope to see more of you at the training!

LECTORS, EUCHARISTIC MINISTERS and ALTAR SERVERS

The sign-up list for Ash Wednesday is posted on the bulletin board outside the library. Please check to see if you can sign up for any of the openings. Thanks!

CHOCOLATE FOR LENT



If you love chocolate, you'll love "Chocolate for Lent." Back by popular demand, this study is based on the Oscar-nominated movie ***Chocolat*** and will run for five weeks from March 9/10 through April 6/7. We are offering the sessions on Thursday Evenings at 7:30 pm and Friday Mornings at 10:00 am. There is one requirement: **You will need to view the film prior to the sessions.** You will have to do this on your own prior to the first session. *Sign-up sheets can be found on the table in the vestibule.*

+Come and be part of this faith-filled and fresh approach to your Lenten Journey+

LENTEN SOUP & STATIONS OF THE CROSS

Join us on Friday evenings during Lent for Soup & Stations. This is an opportunity to come together for a simple meal of soup and bread as a reminder of how we are called to practice a simpler lifestyle during our Lenten journey. There is no cost to participate, but if you choose you may make a free will offering that will be used to help the poor in our area. The meal begins at 6:30PM and Stations of the Cross will begin immediately following at 7:30PM where we once again reflect on the journey of Jesus to Calvary and its meaning for us today.

CONFIRMATION RETREAT

A reminder to all those in our 8th Grade Religious Education Classes – the Confirmation Retreat will take place on Thursday, March 2 from 4:00PM until 9:00PM. You must arrive before 4:00PM. Late comers will not be admitted. The Confirmation Retreat is a required part of the Confirmation Program. You only need to bring yourself – everything else will be provided.

WOMEN'S RETREAT DAY

Saturday, March 11 9:30AM – 2:30PM

Walking in the Dark and Living in the Light!

Every one of us experiences both times of darkness and light in our lives. Our retreat this year will explore and encourage reflection on our awareness of God's presence in these moments. Come join us for a day of peaceful surroundings and quiet reflection as we focus on our participation with Jesus, the Light of the World, as the way to maneuver these times.

Sr. Gerrie Muller, SSJ, Retreat Director at San Alfonso Retreat Center will be with us again this year as our presenter for the day. Continental Breakfast and Lunch will be served. **There is no cost for the day but if you'd like to attend, it is important to sign up on the sheets in the vestibule to help us provide for refreshment for the day.** Questions? Contact Carol Schulz at the Parish Office at (732) 792-2270 or e-mail to cschulzstjoseph@optonline.net.

"WHAT'S FOR LUNCH?"



The Ladies of St. Joseph are holding a culinary demonstration with a local professional chef on Sunday, March 19th, from 12:30 PM to 3:30 PM.

A comforting lunch of hors d'oeuvres, salad, roast chicken, a variety of quiches, dessert as well as soda, coffee, tea, and water will be served. BYOB is welcome. Cost of ticket is \$25 per person in advanced; \$30 at the door. Gift baskets will be raffled off. To make your reservation, contact Rosalie 732-490-5302 or rosaliefortunato@gmail.com.

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 March 4/5. Food items including frozen foods, paper goods and toiletries are very much appreciated. If donating frozen foods, please place them in the freezer in the kitchen.

Thanks for your generosity and support.

SEPARATED AND DIVORCED MINISTRY

Are you coping with the challenges of separation or divorce? Come participate in the Separated and Divorced Ministry. It is open to all adults who are separated or divorced, or in the process of journeying through either of these transitions. Join us for mutual sharing and support in a spiritual, caring, and *confidential* setting. Our next session is on Tuesday, February 28 at 7:30PM. We meet in the small meeting room which is located at the rear of the Parish Hall. For more information, please contact Deacon Chris at chrisstjoseph@optonline.net. If healing or just some friendly support is an important need in your life, join us.

HELP WITH HOMELESS PROGRAM

Thank you to everyone who has signed up to help with the Homeless Program! We are still in need of volunteers to help. 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. Please consider helping with this worthwhile ministry.

WELCOME

As a Parish Community we joyfully welcome:

Sabrina Josephine Grasso

Savannah Rose Guttridge

Emma Grace Wasserman

who were welcomed in God's Family and the Church through the Sacrament of Baptism. Let us lift these little ones up in our prayers.

BAPTISMS

Just a reminder that we do not celebrate Baptisms during the Season of Lent. Baptisms will resume after Easter. Also, please remember that a Preparation Session is required for Parents prior to Baptism. To set up a date for Baptism or register for a preparation session, please contact the Parish Office.

CHOIRS

Come and join Choir. You don't have to be able to read music or think that you have the best voice in the world, there is room for you in choir.

Children ages 6½ and up are invited to join the Children's Choir. Rehearsal for the Children's Choir takes place on Thursdays at 5:00PM.

Teens and adults are invited to join the Contemporary Choir. Rehearsals for the Contemporary Choir takes place on Thursdays at 6:00PM. For more information about any part of the Music Ministry contact Kristine at Kris0373@aol.com or 973-768-4184.



A 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.

SHOP AT AMAZON - SUPPORT THE PARISH

If you shop on Amazon, you can help support the parish by designating St. Joseph Church as the charity you wish to support. Eligible purchases will result in Amazon donating a portion to the parish. You do have to designate St. Joseph Church, Millstone Twp. as your charity. You also have to use the Amazon Smile site instead of the normal Amazon site. It is the same merchandise and account as Amazon but it allows you to be connected by the Amazon Smile Program. To check it out go to <http://smile.amazon.com/ch/22-6103657> (a direct link) or go to our website and click the link. Thanks for your support!

DONATION STATEMENTS

If you need a statement of donations for tax purposes, please send a self-addressed envelope to the parish office.

STAY CONNECTED – "like us" on Facebook at St. Joseph Catholic Church Millstone Twp, NJ, visit our website at www.stjosephmillstone.org, or follow us on twitter @frmikestjoseph.

FAITH TO MOVE MOUNTAINS

Thank you to everyone who has made a pledge or donation to the Diocese of Trenton Faith To Move Mountains Campaign. Parishioners have pledged \$251,364.00 on our way to the \$565,000.00 parish goal. Please consider making a pledge to the campaign which will set up endowment funds to ensure the ongoing ministry of the Diocese. Pledges can be made and take up to five years to complete. Pledge cards can be found on the table at the entrance of the church. If you have questions, please contact Fr. Mike. Thank you again.

➔ Calendar of Events ➔

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|--------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Feb 28 | No Religious Education Classes
6:00PM - Mardi Gras
7:30PM – Separated & Divorced Ministry |
| Mar 1 | Ash Wednesday
Parish Office Closed
9:00AM – Mass
10:00AM – Legion of Mary
5:00PM – Mass
7:00PM – Mass |
| Mar 2 | 4:00PM – CONFIRMATION RETREAT
<i>(Required for all Confirmation Students)</i> |
| Mar 3 | 6:30PM – Lenten Soup Night
7:30PM – Stations of the Cross |
| Mar 4 | 5:00PM – Children's Choir Practice
6:00PM – Choir Practice |
| Mar 5 | Children's Liturgy of the Word
Parish Food Collection |
| Mar 6 | 7:00PM - Building & Grounds Committee |
| Mar 7 | 7:30PM – Ladies of St. Joseph Meeting |
| Mar 8 | 10:00AM – Prayer Shawl Ministry |
| Mar 9 | 7:30PM – Chocolate For Lent |
| Mar 10 | 10:00AM – Chocolate For Lent
6:30PM – Lenten Soup Night
7:30PM – Stations of the Cross |
| Mar 12 | Hospitality Sunday |
| Mar 14 | 7:30PM – Men's Guild Meeting |
| Mar 18 | 11:00AM – New Altar Server Training |
| Mar 19 | Parish Food Collection
Children's Liturgy of the Word |

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>Rob Folinus - Permanent Deacon</i> Robstjoseph@optonline.net	Sunday Morning - 9:00 AM & 11:00 AM
<i>Chris Chandonnet, Permanent Deacon</i> Chrisstjoseph@optonline.net	Mon, Tues, Wed & Fri - 9:00AM
<i>Carol Schulz, Pastoral Associate</i> CSchulzstjoseph@optonline.net	Holy Days: as listed in the bulletin
<i>Jean Semanchick, Parish Secretary & Coordinator of Religious Education</i> Jeanstjoseph@optonline.net	Confessions: After the 5:00 PM Mass on Saturday or by appointment.
<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.