January 08, 2023

FEAST OF THE EPIPHANY



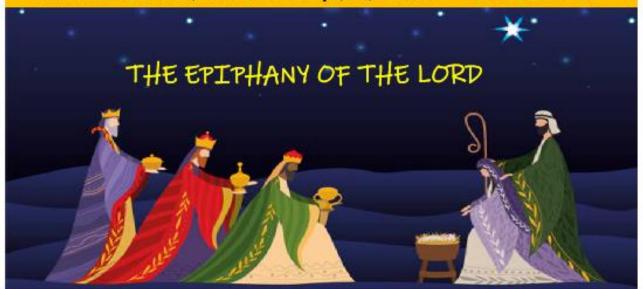
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MASS

Saturday

5:00 PM

<u>SUNDAY</u>

9:00 AM & 11:00 AM Mon. Tues. Wed. Fri.

9:00 AM

Masses are also

live streamed

SERVED BY

Rev. Michael P. Lang, Pastor frmikestjoseph@optonline.net

Chris Chandonnet, Deacon chrisstjoseph@optonline.net

Vicki Craig, Pastoral Associate VickicStjoseph@gmail.com

Genevieve Semanchick
Parish Secretary & CRE

Jeanstjoseph@optonline.net

CONNECT

Fax: 732-792-2271

Website:

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Some thoughts from Fr. Mike...

Dear Friends,

Our Gospel tells us that God chose to be engaged with humankind. This gospel is the story of our journey to God. Like the Magi, we are often called to God from far off places, distances often of our own making. Like the Magi, we often make our way through indifference, hostility, politics, even scandal...and then we find the one we are to worship. We have tamed this story with talk of kings, crowns, and camels. We often forget it is about real people seeking someone, seeking the light, that we all hope to find.

What we find is inclusiveness. The whole Christmas story is about inclusiveness. The first to come to the stable were shepherds, not as we see them on Christmas cards, but real shepherds who were looked down upon and avoided. They were chosen to be the first to hear that God had touched earth. Then the Magi, outsiders, pagans, who would be avoided because they were ritually impure. So the two groups who were invited and guided to the stable were among the most rejected.

Isn't that what the gospel is all about? We find Jesus most of the time with the most rejected. That is why our church must be attentive to people whose lives have been fractured, people who turn away from our church, people who are not accepted. The Eucharist is not a reward for good behavior, it is food for the journey. What does all this tell us?

It tells us that if we have ever felt rejected, we belong at the stable. If we have somehow not measured up to other people's standards, we belong at the stable. If we have sinned or separated ourselves from God, we belong at the stable. It is interesting that when they had found the Lord, the Magi entered the stable, and not a word was spoken. Perhaps words could not convey all they had found. The One whom the whole universe cannot contain, now enclosed in a tiny baby.... they look, they believe. The only thing they could do was fall on their knees, and offer Him their gifts. They wanted to give Him something.

As the New Year progresses, I leave you with a question: As you come forward to receive Jesus today, what will you give Him? All He wants is your heart!

Peace, prayers and love to all of you,

Fr. Míke

Mass Schedule + Readings

Saturday Jaunary- 7 St Raymond of Penafort

(1 Jn 5:14-21 Jn 2:1-11)

5:00pm JoAnn Silva 1/10 The Gellman Family

Sunday January-8 The Epiphany of the Lord

(ls 60:1-6 Eph 3:2-3a, 5-6 Mt 2:1-12)

9:00am John Lockwood 1/10 Kathleen Lockwood

11:00am Donna Cameroni no The Schlegel Family

Monday January- 9 The Baptism of the Lord

(Is 42:1-4, 6-7 Acts 10:34-38 Mt 3:13-17)

9:00am Sue Werner 1/10 Mickey Napolitano

Tuesday January- 10 Weekday

(Heb 2.5 12/Mk 1.21-28 or Heb 1:1-6 and 2:5-12 Mk 1:14-20 and 1:21-28)

9:00am Healing Intentions of Kevin Simacek

r/b Pat & Dick Hileman

Wednesday January- 11 Weekday

(Heb 2:14-18 Mk 1:29-39)

9:00am Sue Werner Mb Bob & Claire Sawicz

Thursday January- 12 **Weekday**

(Heb 3:7-14 Mk 1:40-45) NO MASS

Friday January- 13 St Hilary (Heb 4:1-5, 11 Mk 2:1-2)

9:00am Frederick Seixas 1/16 The Cranmer Family

Saturday January- 14 Weekday

(Heb 4:12-16 Mk 2:13-17)

5:00pm Kimberly Neller 1/10 Cynthia Heluk

Sunday January- 15 2nd Sunday in Ordinary Time

(Is 49:3, 5-6 1 Cor 1:1-3 Jn 1:29-34)

9:00am Bernadette Lang 1/16 Her Family

11:00am Thomas Raab 1/16 Greg & Danette Cionque



Sanctuary Candle... this week Sean Quigley rlb 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

<u>Please Keep in your prayers:</u> The sick and the lonely, the safe return of our service man & women, for vocations to the priesthood and religious life and for the hungry and the homeless

BUILDINGS AND GROUNDS COMMITTEE



The Buildings and Grounds Committee will meet on Monday, January 9 at 7:00 PM in the Parish House (Rectory) – food will be served. The Building and Grounds Committee offers advice and helps with the planning for work needed to keep our buildings and grounds in good repair. Anyone is welcome to com and be part of the Buildings and Grounds Committee. For more information contact Tom at tbaber@moneymailer.com.

MEN'S GUILD



The Men's Guild, our Parish Men's Group, will meet on Tuesday, January 10 at **7:00PM** at the Parish House (Rectory) - food will be served. All men of the parish are welcome to be part of the Men's Guild. For more information about the Men's Guild, contact Dave dcerulosr@gmail.com. Hope to see you at the meeting!

HOSPITALITY SUNDAY



Hospitality Sunday will take place on Sunday, January 15 this month. (it is normally the 2nd Sunday of the month but there was a scheduling conflict this month). Come and join us for refreshments and an opportunity to socialize after the 9:00AM or 11:00AM Mass.

PARENT-CHILD BREAKFAST



The Parent-Child Breakfast is coming back. It will be held on Sunday, February 5 after the 11:00AM Mass. Tickets are just \$5.00 per person. There will be a delicious breakfast, door prizes of Hess Trucks, and a raffle for basketball tickets – so pan to join us! It is a wonderful opportunity to make memories with your child(ren). To reserve your spot or if you have questions, contact Dave at dcerulosr@gmail.com.

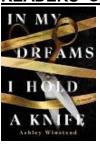
FOOD COLLECTION



Thank you for your continued generosity with the food donations. There will always be a need for assistance with food for many people so we will continue to collect food, paper goods and toiletries in the bins inside the church entrances. After the first and third Sundays of the month volunteers will deliver the donated items to the Millstone

Community Center where they are greatly appreciated and will reach those in need. Thank you again for your generosity.

READERS' CLUB



The Readers' Club has chosen *In my Dreams I hold a Knife: A Novel* by Ashley Winstead for the next book. A college reunion turns dark and deadly in this chilling and propulsive suspense novel about six friends, one unsolved murder, and the dark secrets they've been hiding from each other—and themselves—for a decade. The next meeting will take place on Wednesday, January 25th at 7:30PM in the Parish Hall. For more information about the Reader's Club or to RSVP contact Fran - ambiofran@gmail.com.

RCIA - Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults



RCIA sessions take place each Sunday, unless otherwise noted on Sunday mornings after the 9:00AM Mass. If you are interested, or know of someone who is interested, please contact Fr. Mike - frmikestjoseph@optonline.net or 732-792-2270. The RCIA (Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults) is a faith journey for those who wish to be Baptized, those who are Baptized and are now interested are interested in joining the Catholic Church and those who have not completed the Sacraments of Initiation (Baptism, Eucharist and Confirmation). The RCIA is a journey of faith where people are encouraged to discern God's call in their lives. It is not a typical classroom setting. Our Catholic beliefs are introduced and explained and participants in the RCIA are encouraged to see how our beliefs, practices, Liturgies and Sacraments can have an impact in everyday situations. Anyone and everyone is invited to "come and see" to find out if the RCIA process is what you are being drawn to in your life. RCIA sessions have resumed. If you are interested or would like more information, contact Fr. Mike - frmikestjoseph@optonline.net or 732-792-2270.

CHOIRS, CANTORS AND MUSIC MINISTRY



Do you love to sing? Do you use your voice to praise God? The parish choirs would celebrate to have you join either the St. Choir or the Children's Choir. You do not need to be a professional singer to be part of the choir. If you have a good voice and feel comfortable in leading singing, why not use your talent to be a Cantor at Mass? Can you play an instrument and willing to put your talent to use as we gather to celebrate Mass? Perhaps you would like to join the contemporary group. None of these opportunities demand a great deal of time – just a commitment and willingness. If you would like to become part of a choir, serve as a Cantor or lend your musical abilities, you can sign up by visiting our parish website https://www.stjosephmillstone.org/music-ministry or email Kristine at kristine at kris0373@aol.com.

Let us always be willing to praise our loving God.

EUCHARISTIC MINISTERS

Please sign up to serve at Mass. Now that everyone will be coming forward to receive the Eucharist again, Eucharistic Ministers will be needed at each Mass. If Deacon Chris is present, we will need 2 Eucharistic Ministers. If Deacon Chris is not present, we will need 3 Eucharistic Ministers. The sign-up sheet is located on the bulletin board outside of the library. Thanks

BAPTISMS

Baptisms are celebrated on the 1st and 3rd Sundays of the month at 12:30 PM. Up to four families will be scheduled for each celebration of Baptism. If you would like to schedule Baptism for your child, please call the parish office 732-792-2270.

TRANSPORT PEOPLE FROM MILLSTONE MANOR TO CHURCH

On Sunday mornings, some of our parishioners transport residents of Millstone Manor to our Church for Mass. There is a need for some additional drivers to fill in the schedule. If you are willing to help, or want to find out more information, please contact Mickey at brunonap@AOL.com. THANKS

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ALTAR SERVERS

We invite Altar Servers back to serve at Mass. If you have already been trained as an Alter Server and are willing to serve at Mass, please go to https://www.stjosephmillstone.org/altar-servers and complete the form online. If you would like to be an Altar Server, we are glad to have you serve. Those currently in grades 4-12 may serve as Altar Servers. Just sign up on the parish website - https://www.stjosephmillstone.org/altar-servers. Training will be provided. Thanks!

BAPTISM BIBS

While the practice of giving out Baptism bibs has been suspended during the pandemic, we will soon begin using Baptism bibs again at our celebrations of the Sacrament of Baptism. If any of those who have so lovingly made the Baptism bibs can continue, that would be very much appreciated. New people who would like to make the bibs are also welcome. If you would like to see a sample, please see Fr. Mike. The Baptism bib is a symbol of the newly Baptized child putting on Christ. The purpose of having parishioners make the bibs instead of using prepackaged felt bibs, is to demonstrate that we are all connected in faith and as community. While making the bibs, many have prayed for the child who will receive it. If you have questions or just want some more information, give Fr. Mike or see him after Mass. Thanks!

LEGION OF MARY

The Legion of Mary meets on Wednesday mornings after the 9:00AM Mass. The Legion of Mary is an international association of members of the Catholic Church. Anyone in the parish is invited to come to find out more about the Legion of Mary.

SHOP AT AMAZON - SUPPORT THE PARISH

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.

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!

POSITION AVAILABLE IN THE PARISH



A part-time position is available in the parish for Janitorial/Maintenance. Responsibilities include cleaning and keeping the building tidy. The hours are a bit flexible and are about 20 hours per week. For more information or to apply contact Fr. Mike at the parish office 732-792-2270 or rmikestjoseph@optonline.org.

LIVE STREAM OF MASS -

Masses continue to be live streamed at https://vimeo.com/event/106444, on our parish website at www.stjosephmillstone.org/live-stream on our Facebook Page www.facebook.com/stjosephchurchmillstone and on the Parish YouTube channel www.youtube.com/c/StJosephchurchMillstoneTwp

STAY CONNECTED - FIND THE LATEST NEWS

Don't forget to stay in touch with parish events through social media. Find out what is going on at our website at www.stjosephmillstone.org. Connect with the parish on Facebook. Give our page a like to keep informed about events. You can find the parish page on Facebook at St. Joseph Catholic Church Millstone Twp. NJ or @stjosephchurchmillstone. Stay informed — stay connected!



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 email or leave a message for Fr. Mike

HELP US TO BE IN TOUCH WITH YOU

The Parish uses Flocknotes which is a program to send out email and text messages to parishioners. This will allow us to stay in touch about parish events, emergency closings and important information. To benefit from this, you must sign up with your cell phone number and/or email address. In the present time, it is important that we have a way to get news out to everyone. We will use Flocknotes to let parents know if Religious Education classes are canceled and we send out reminders about scheduled closings for holidays, etc. It is easy to be on the notification list – just text the code sjmill to 84576 and follow the prompts. You may also go to our website to be included – stjosephmillstone.org/flocknotes. Just enter your information and follow the prompts. You can then select the groups that you want information from. All information is confidential. Others are not able to view your information. Please remember that email and text message will be sent from Flocknotes. Thanks!



The Diocese of Trenton is committed to the initiatives outlined in the U.S. Bishop's Charter for the Protection of Children and Young People in regard to the reporting and investigation of sexual abuse allegations involving minors. If you have been sexually abused as a minor by a member of the clergy or anyone representing the Catholic Church, or if you know of someone who was, you can report that abuse through the diocesan Abuse Hotline: 1-888-296-2965 or via e-mail at abuseline@dioceseoftrenton.org. The Diocese of Trenton reports any allegations of sexual abuse to the appropriate law enforcement agencies. Anyone with an allegation is also encouraged to provide that information to local law enforcement authorities.

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

Rev. Michael P. Lang - Pastor frmikestjoseph @optonline.net

Chris Chandonnet, Permanent Deacon Chrisstjoseph@optonline.net

Vicki Craig, Pastoral Associate vickicstjoseph@gmail.com

Jean Semanchick, Parish Secretary & Coordinator of Religious Education <u>Jeanstjoseph@optonline.net</u>

Kristine Reide, Music Ministry Leader
Kris0373@aol.com

MASS TIMES

Saturday Evening - 5:00 PM

Sunday Morning - 9:00 AM & 11:00 AM

Mon, Tues, Wed & Fri - 9:00AM

Holy Days: as listed in the bulletin

Confessions: At this time, Confessions are Offered by appointment only.

<u>BAPTISM</u> – 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.

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

<u>Sick Calls</u> – 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

<u>Registration</u> – 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.

<u>Sponsor Certificates</u> – 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.

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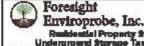
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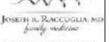
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