April 30, 2023

4th Sunday of Easter



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SHEPHERD

MASS

Saturday

5:00 PM

SUNDAY

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,

The preaching of Jesus is full of illustrations from the ordinary lives of the people of his time. Many were farmers and fishermen. By doing this, Jesus made his message relatable the people and demonstrated that their lives were important. There is one image though that seems to stand out from the rest of those used by Jesus and that is the image of Christ as the Good Shepherd. There is perhaps no better loved picture of Jesus than that of the Good Shepherd. In describing Himself as the Good Shepherd, Jesus was painting a beautiful picture of his loving care for the human family while emphasizing how special we are in the eyes of God. Each one of us has a special place in the heart of Jesus as he calls us by name and cares for us individually. Jesus is our constant guardian and guide who constantly calls us home when we are inclined to wander and stray from the path we are called to follow. Jesus' everlasting love never gives up on us and He keeps following us and calling out until we respond. More importantly, if we tune our ears to his voice, we will not stray because he will never let us down. There is no greater basis for hope that the truth that we are loved by God is such a wonderful manner.

The question for all of us to answer is what response are we making for the gift of God's loving care? In truth, the only response God seeks and that is worth making is to be alert and ready to answer when are called to come and follow Jesus. The compassion of Jesus is recognized in hearts that are full of tenderness and love. We need constant reminders that our calling is to be shepherded by Jesus so that we may respond confidently when we are called to make the presence of Christ known to others.

We make the presence of Christ known when we act as Jesus calls us to act. We can be the touch of human love for those who have no friends. The caring acts of God are performed in the hands that are willing to serve the needs of others. Christ is depending on each one of us to willingly choose the path that will allow us to be visual reminders of the saving action of the Good Shepherd.

Peace, prayers and love to all of you,

Fr. Mike

Mass Schedule + Readings

9:00am

Saturday April- 29 St Catherine of Siena

(Acts 9:31-42 Jn 6:60-69)

5:00pm Ryan Scott 1/10 Salvatore Sanft

Sunday April- 30 4th Sunday Easter

World Day of Prayer for Vocations (Acts 2:14s, 36-41 1 Pt 2:20b-25 Jn 10:1-1)

Pauline Zaleski 1/16 The Hileman Family

11:00am Giovanni Scrivanich 1/6 The Family

Monday May- 1 St Joseph the Worker

(Acts 611:1-18 / Jn 10:11-18)

9:00am Sadie Peters 1/10 Irene Ewig

Tuesday May- 2 St Athanasius

(Acts 11:19-26 Jn 10:22-30)

9:00am Ray Kalianikas 1/16 Deb Smarth

Wednesday May-3 Saints Philip and James

(Acts 8:1b-8 Jn 6:35-40)

9:00am Michael & Michelle 1/10 The Family

Thursday May-4 Easter Weekday

National Day of Prayer

(Acts 13:13-25 Jn 13:16-20) No Wass

Friday May- 5 Easter Weekday

(Acts 13:26-33 Jn 14:1-6)

9:00am Nick Costagliola 1/16 The Family

Saturday May- 6 **Easter Weekday**

(Acts 13:44-52 Jn 14:7-14)

5:00pm Luke David Bautista 1/16 Grandma

Sunday May- 7 5th Sunday of Easter

(Acts 6:1-7 1 Pt 2:4-9 Jn 14:1-12)

9:00am Aunts Jo, Millie & Mary

r/b The Sawicz Family

11:00am Anna Morin 1/b Her Family

Sanctuary Candle... this week Healing Intentions of Joseph Corsaro



r/b Carmelo & Joann Corsaro

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, for vocations to the priesthood and religious life and for the hungry and the homeless.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION NEWS

Just a reminder that those who are to receive the Sacrament of the Eucharist for the first time on Saturday, May 6 have a practice on Wednesday, May 3 at 4:30PM.

BUILDINGS AND GROUNDS COMMITTEE



The Buildings and Grounds Committee will meet on Monday, May 1 at 7:00 PM in the Parish Hall. 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.

LADIES OF ST. JOSEPH



The Ladies of St. Joseph will meet on Tuesday, May 2. They will start by praying the rosary in front of the Holy Family statue in front of the church at 7:00PM. The meeting will follow in the Parish Hall. The Ladies of St. Joseph is the parish women's group. All women of the parish are invited to attend and to be involved in the activities offered. If you have any questions or would more information about the Ladies of St. Joseph, please contact Jo Ann - jannkronenthal@gmail.com

MEN'S GUILD



The Men's Guild, our Parish Men's Group, will meet on Tuesday, May 9 at 7:30PM at the Parish Hall. 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!

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL ADULT VOLUNTEERS ARE NEEDED





We need more Adult Volunteers to help us run VBS this Summer!

If you are interested or have any questions, you can contact us at Iconklin623@gmail.com.

Adult volunteers are needed for Vacation Bible School. If you are interested or want to find out more information, contact Lisa – lconklin623@gmail.com. THANKS!

FOOD COLLECTION



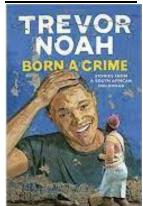
Thank you for your continued generosity with the food donations. There will always be a need for assistance with food for many people so we will continue to collect food, paper goods and toiletries in the bins inside the church entrances. After the first and third Sundays of the month volunteers will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

Center where they are greatly appreciated and will reach those in need. PLEASE NOTE → Please check food for expiration dates or "best by" dates – items past the date cannot be given to those who need help so please do not bring food that is past the expiration date. Thank you again for your generosity.

ALS PRAYER GROUP

Lou Gehrig's Disease (ALS) is a neurological disease with no known cure. For those impacted with ALS, the Holy Innocents Society of the Diocese of Trenton is sponsoring a weekly virtual prayer group. It is an opportunity to pray for strength with others impacted by ALS. If you have ALS or are a caregiver or family member of someone with ALS, you are invited to participate every week or just when you can. The group will meet via Zoom every Monday at 10:00AM. For more information or to register, please send email to holyinnocentssociety@dioceseoftrenton.org with the subject line "ALS". Please include your name and telephone number. Let us pray together.

READERS' CLUB



The Readers' Club has chosen Born a Crime by Trevor Noah.

Born a Crime is the story of a mischievous young boy who grows into a restless young man as he struggles to find himself in a world where he was never supposed to exist. It is also the story of that young man's relationship with his fearless, rebellious, and fervently religious mother—his teammate, a woman determined to save her son from the cycle of poverty, violence, and abuse that would ultimately threaten her own life.

Our theme for food will be South African Food.

The next meeting will take place on Wednesday, May 17th at 7:30PM in the Parish Hall. For more information about the Reader's Club or to RSVP contact Fran - ambiofran@gmail.com.

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.

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.

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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 frmikestjoseph@optonline.org.

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. 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

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.

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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

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!

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!

Parish Giving

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



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 frmikestioseph @optonline.net

Chris Chandonnet, Permanent Deacon Chrisstjoseph@optonline.net

Vicki Craig, Pastoral Associate vickicstjoseph@gmail.com

Jean Semanchick, Parish Secretary & Coordinator of Religious Education

Jeanstjoseph@optonline.net

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: Confessions take place on Saturdays after the 5:00PM Mass or anytime by appointment.

<u>BAPTISM</u> – The Sacrament of Baptism is normally celebrated on the 1st and 3rd Sunday of the month at 12:30 PM. 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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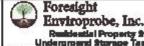
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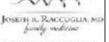
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