

May 21, 2023

The Ascension of the Lord

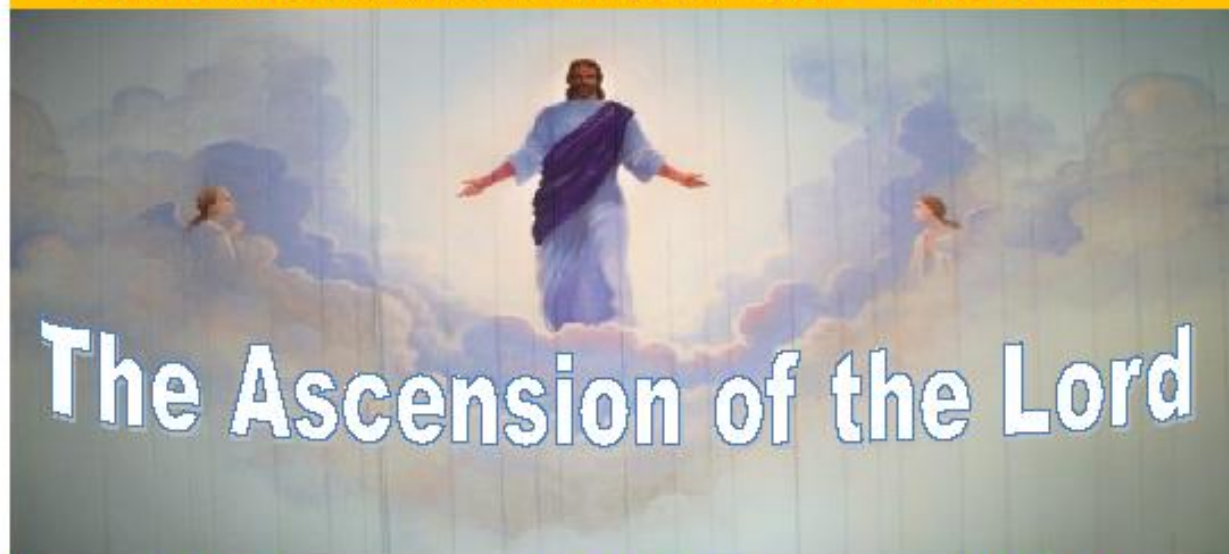


# St. Joseph

## Catholic Church

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

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



# The Ascension of the Lord

### 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](mailto:frmikestjoseph@optonline.net)

Chris Chandonnet, Deacon

[chrisstjoseph@optonline.net](mailto:chrisstjoseph@optonline.net)

Vicki Craig, Pastoral Associate

[VickicStjoseph@gmail.com](mailto:VickicStjoseph@gmail.com)

Genevieve Semanchick

Parish Secretary & CRE

[jeanstjoseph@optonline.net](mailto:jeanstjoseph@optonline.net)

### CONNECT

Fax: 732-792-2271

Website:

[www.stjosephmillstone.org](http://www.stjosephmillstone.org)

Facebook:

[@stjosephchurchmillstone](https://www.facebook.com/stjosephchurchmillstone)

Twitter:

[@frmikestjoseph](https://twitter.com/frmikestjoseph)

Some thoughts from Fr. Mike...

Dear Friends,

Saying farewell to a loved one is not easy and is something that we never fully grow accustomed to doing. Today we remember the Ascension of the Lord, which marks the end of Jesus' earthly mission and His glorious return to the Father. Jesus had achieved the work that He was sent to do. Perhaps trumpets were sounding in heaven to welcome the arrival of the ascending Lord, but most likely the disciples were experiencing a deep sadness in their hearts due to His departure. However, the disciples would not be given the opportunity to simply sit around in sadness because the final words of Jesus, "I am with you always. Go make disciples of all nations," while meant to bring comfort, were also extremely urgent in meaning. Not only was Jesus promising that He was not abandoning them, but Jesus also entrusted them with the mission of making the love of God the Father known. This mission would be carried out by the disciples through joyful and selfless lives in the service of others. In the absence of Jesus, the disciples could not remain inactive but had to be willing to move into the future with courage. The disciples were given a vital and essential role in announcing the salvation that Christ had gained on Calvary by transforming death into the dawn of new life. While Jesus would no longer be physically present, the disciples would be assisted by the Holy Spirit who would be their guide and strength as embarked on their new mission.

Today, we are called to ponder within our hearts the meaning of this great feast of the Ascension of the Lord so that we might grasp some of the confidence which God has placed in us. The Ascension focuses on what we must do to be with Christ forever. Where Jesus has gone, we hope to follow. Just like the early disciples, we are called to reveal God's love through our willingness to serve. We are entrusted with the work of those who have gone before us. We are called to help build up Christ's kingdom here on earth. In a world filled with challenges, doubts and fears we are called to proclaim the message that can turn sorrow into happiness by being those who demonstrate that we accepted the call of Christ.

Peace, prayers and love to all of you,

**Fr. Mike**

## Mass Schedule + Readings

<b>Saturday</b>	May- 20 <b>Saint Bernadette of Siena</b> (Acts 18:23-28 Jn 16:23b-28)
5:00pm	<i>Geraldine McCarthy</i> r/b Pat & Jim Toporek
<b>Sunday</b>	May- 21 <b>The Ascension of the Lord</b> (Acts 1:1-11 Eph 1:17-23 Mt 28:16-20)
9:00am	<i>Stanley Kirkowski</i> r/b The Family
11:00am	<i>Linda Brehme</i> r/b The Eng Family
<b>Monday</b>	May- 22 <b>St Rita of Cascia</b> (Acts 19:1-8 Jn 16:29-33)
9:00am	<i>Mary Jane Kohlhepp</i> r/b The Giffen Family
<b>Tuesday</b>	May- 23 <b>Easter Weekday</b> (Acts 20:17-27 Jn 17"1-11a)
9:00am	<i>Healing Intentions of JoAnn Trifiro</i> r/b The Hill Family
<b>Wednesday</b>	May- 24 <b>Easter Weekday</b> (Acts 20:28-38 Jn 17:11b-19)
9:00am	<i>Sue &amp; Kory Werner</i> r/b Frances DeRosa
<b>Thursday</b>	May- 25 <b>St Bede the Venerable</b> <b>St Gregory VII – St Mary Magdalene de'Pazzi</b> (Acts 22:30; 23:6-11/Jn 17:20-26) <i>No Mass</i>
<b>Friday</b>	May- 26 <b>Saint Philip Neri</b> (Acts 25:13b-21 Jn 21:15-19)
9:00am	<i>June Agnes Filippelli</i> r/b Maria Buttitta
<b>Saturday</b>	May- 27 <b>Saint Augustine of Canterbury</b> (Acts 28:16-20, 30-31 Jn 21:20-25)
5:00pm	<i>Anna Morin</i> r/b Her Family
<b>Sunday</b>	May- 28 <b>Pentecost Sunday</b> (Acts 2:1-11 1 Cor 12:3b-7, 12-13 Jn 20:19-23)
9:00am	<i>Nikolai Lutsenko</i> r/b The Tkachuk Family
11:00am	<i>Jerry Ryan</i> r/b The Ryan Family

## Sanctuary Candle... this week

**Asa Brian Craig** r/b His Family

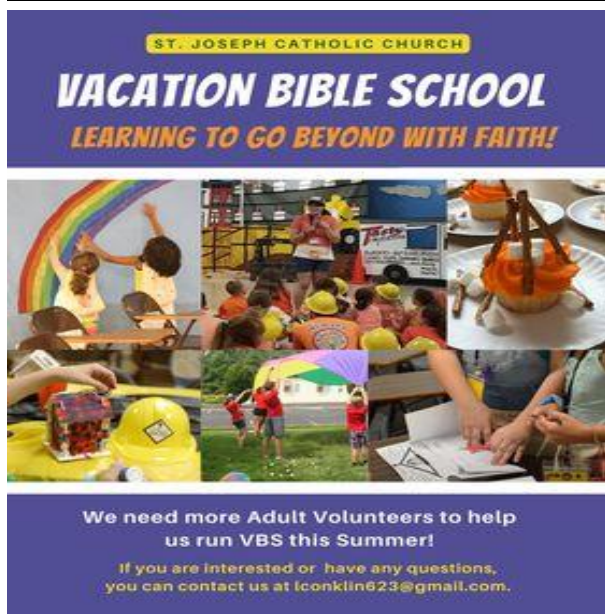


## Prayer Chain Contacts:

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.

## **VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL ADULT VOLUNTEERS ARE NEEDED**



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

## **REGISTRATION FOR RELIGIOUS EDUCATION 2023-2024**



Registration for September Classes in our Parish Religious Education Program is now taking place. To complete a re-registration for current students or to register a new student (1<sup>st</sup> Grade or a transfer from another program) please visit the parish website <https://www.stjosephmillstone.org/prep-parish-religious-education-program>. Print the Parent Handbook and registration materials and return the correct registration form to the Parish Office along with the Parent Agreement. Remember, classes are filled on a first-come, first-served basis. While there is room for everyone, some times and days fill up quicker than others. Once a class has reached capacity, no other children will be placed in that class.

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## **CONFIRMATION PRACTICE**

All those who are to receive the Sacrament of Confirmation on May 25<sup>th</sup> please remember that there is a mandatory practice today, Sunday, May 21 at 1:00PM for Confirmation Candidates and Sponsors. If a sponsor is unable to be present, an adult must stand in for that individual and inform the sponsor of what they are to do at Confirmation. All Confirmation Candidates must be present. Tickets and Robes will be handed out that day as well.

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## **ST JOSEPH CHURCH FAITH ENRICHMENT - SUMMER ARTS FESTIVAL 2023**

Art invites us to encounter the Divine through imagery and imagination. This summer expand your spiritual experiences through art, film, and architecture at St Joseph's. Programs will be shown on select Fridays **6/16, 6/30, 7/7, 7/28, and 8/18 in the parish hall 10 AM-12:30 PM**. Relax enjoy coffee, fellowship, and "armchair tours". We will journey through Tuscany and its treasures of sacred art, explore the architecture and history of sacred buildings of Judaism, Christianity, and Islam. We will view two modern films, *Jesus Revolution* starring Kelsey Grammer and Jonathan Roumie, and *Monuments Men* starring George Clooney and Matt Damon. Please take a flyer located on the table at the entrance to the church for more details. A sign-up sheet is available at the back of the church, or email Vicki Craig, Pastoral Associate at: [vickicstjoseph@gmail.com](mailto:vickicstjoseph@gmail.com). You may also register online at All adult members of the parish are invited. You are welcome to choose to attend any individual session or all five!



## 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.

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## LADIES OF ST. JOSEPH CASH RAFFLE



The Ladies of St. Joseph, our parish women's group, is holding its annual cash raffle. First prize is 25% of sales. Second prize is 15% of sales. Third prize is 10% of sales. The more tickets sold, the higher the prize. Raffle tickets have been sent to each registered family of the parish. Additional tickets are available in the parish office. The proceeds from the raffle are used to help the Ladies of St. Joseph continue to provide services to the parish. The Ladies of St. Joseph offer help with Confirmation Retreat and Jesus Day and also provides materials to benefit our Religious Education Program and more. Thank you for your generous support.

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## GOLF OUTING



The 23<sup>rd</sup> Annual St. Joseph Men's Guild Golf Outing will be held on Thursday, September 14, 2023 at the Forsgate Country Club in Monroe, NJ. Brochures that include registration and sponsor information are available on the table at the entrance of the church. The registration information is also available on the Parish website at <https://www.stjosephmillstone.org/golf-outing>. There are great opportunities for sponsors available. If you need additional information, please contact Dave - [dcerulosr@gmail.com](mailto:dcerulosr@gmail.com). The proceeds from the golf outing are used to help with some parish costs and offer assistance to those in need. Come and have a wonderful day at the course.

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## 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 [holyinnocentsociety@dioceseoftrenton.org](mailto:holyinnocentsociety@dioceseoftrenton.org) with the subject line "ALS". Please include your name and telephone number. Let us pray together.

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## BAPTISMS

Baptisms are celebrated on the 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> 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.

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## **BISHOP'S ANNIVERSARY BLESSING 2023**

All couples celebrating their 1st, 25th or 50+ wedding anniversary during 2023 calendar year are invited to share the Eucharist, reaffirm your sacred wedding vows, and receive Bishop O'Connell's Episcopal Blessing. Anniversary Couples from Ocean and Monmouth Counties may attend the Mass and reception at the Co-Cathedral of St. Robert Bellarmine in Freehold on Sunday, October 8, 2023 at 3 pm. For more information and to register for this event online visit us at [www.dioceseoftrenton.org/bishops-anniversary-blessing](http://www.dioceseoftrenton.org/bishops-anniversary-blessing), or go to the parish website at - <https://www.stjosephmillstone.org/bishop-anniversary-blessing> print the form and return to the Parish Office or pick up a registration form from the Parish Office. The registration deadline for all anniversary couples is September 15, 2023.

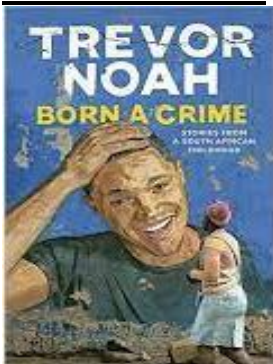
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## **HELP US TO BE IN TOUCH WITH YOU**

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](http://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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## **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 Monday, May 22<sup>nd</sup> (note change of date) at 7:30PM in the Parish Hall. For more information about the Reader's Club or to RSVP contact Fran - [ambiofran@gmail.com](mailto:ambiofran@gmail.com).

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## **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](mailto: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](mailto:frmikestjoseph@optonline.net) or 732-792-2270.

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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](mailto:frmikestjoseph@optonline.org).

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## **EUCCHARISTIC 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

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## **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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## **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 [kris0373@aol.com](mailto:kris0373@aol.com).

*Let us always be willing to praise our loving God.*

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## **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!

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### **STRESS IN YOUR MARRIAGE?**

- Do you feel lost, alone or bored in your marriage?
- Are you frustrated, hurt or angry with your spouse?
- Have you thought about separation or divorce?
- Does talking about it only make it worse?

RETROUVAILLE is a Lifeline to Help Couples Heal and Renew their Marriages sponsored by the Office of Family Life, Diocese of Metuchen, NJ. RETROUVAILLE consists of a weekend experience for married couples (no group discussions) with six follow-up sessions. The upcoming weekend is **August 18-20, 2023**. All inquiries are confidential. For further information, please contact Rich Colasuonno 732-236-0671 or Annette Colasuonno 732-672-0748 or email [3024@helpourmarriage.org](mailto:3024@helpourmarriage.org).

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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](mailto:brunonap@AOL.com). THANKS

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### **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](http://www.stjosephmillstone.org/live-stream) on our Facebook Page [www.facebook.com/stjosephchurchmillstone](https://www.facebook.com/stjosephchurchmillstone) and on the Parish YouTube channel [www.youtube.com/c/StJosephChurchMillstoneTwp](https://www.youtube.com/c/StJosephChurchMillstoneTwp)

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### **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](http://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!

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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](http://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

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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](mailto: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](http://WWW.STJOSEPHMILLSTONE.ORG)

PARISH STAFF	MASS TIMES
<i>Rev. Michael P. Lang - Pastor</i> <a href="mailto:frmikestjoseph@optonline.net">frmikestjoseph@optonline.net</a>	<b>Saturday Evening - 5:00 PM</b>
<i>Chris Chandonnet, Permanent Deacon</i> <a href="mailto:Chrisstjoseph@optonline.net">Chrisstjoseph@optonline.net</a>	<b>Sunday Morning - 9:00 AM &amp; 11:00 AM</b>
<i>Vicki Craig, Pastoral Associate</i> <a href="mailto:vickicstjoseph@gmail.com">vickicstjoseph@gmail.com</a>	<b>Mon, Tues, Wed &amp; Fri - 9:00AM</b>
<i>Jean Semanchick, Parish Secretary &amp; Coordinator of Religious Education</i> <a href="mailto:Jeanstjoseph@optonline.net">Jeanstjoseph@optonline.net</a>	<b>Holy Days: as listed in the bulletin</b>
<i>Kristine Reide, Music Ministry Leader</i> <a href="mailto:Kris0373@aol.com">Kris0373@aol.com</a>	<b>Confessions: Confessions take place on Saturdays after the 5:00PM Mass or anytime by appointment.</b>

**BAPTISM** – The Sacrament of Baptism is normally celebrated on the 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> 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.

**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.



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To advertise in our bulletin please contact Fr. Mike - 732-792-2270 or  
[frmikestjoseph@optonline.net](mailto:frmikestjoseph@optonline.net) Very reasonable rates.